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MP's call for A34 safety boost

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Firm ponders its next move over retail park plan

By **Samantha McGregor**

A DEVELOPER is considering its options after a planning inspector rejected an appeal over plans for a retail park in Bicester.

Consolidated Property Group wanted to build six shops, a restaurant, a gym and a car park on land at the Kingsmere estate, off Oxford Road.

But the inspector Michael Whitehead said he believed the development would affect "traffic flow" on the surrounding roads. A spokesman for the developer said it was refused access to a Bicester traffic advisory meeting, attended by town, district and county councillors, Bicester Village and Bicester Vision, where it could have worked with the organisations to bring forward proposals to mitigate the traffic issues.

Members of the press, including the Oxfordshire Guardian, are also not allowed to attend the traffic meeting.

The spokesman said: "We believe there's potential to submit a new planning application to overcome the two key issues, highways and car parking, and a single design issue.

"We haven't made any decision and will be looking at it over the next few weeks.

"We are very disappointed. People want the retail facilities."

The developer said it had signed up retailers Next and Marks and Spencer, a 24-hour gym and a restaurant.

Last October, Cherwell District Council refused the planning application on the grounds of increased traffic, car parking and the impact on town-centre retailers. An appeal hearing took place in June.

Among the objectors to the scheme was Bicester Village, Sainsbury's, Bicester Town

• Continues on page 3

• An artists impression of the Bicester Retail Park plans

Cuts demo day

RESIDENTS are being called to arms to protest cuts against Banbury's Horton General Hospital.

A demonstration four weeks ago drew in more than 500 people calling for plans to downgrade the hospital's maternity ward to be scrapped.

See page 3 for the full story.

• Mums-to-be at the protest last month (photo by Peter Jones)

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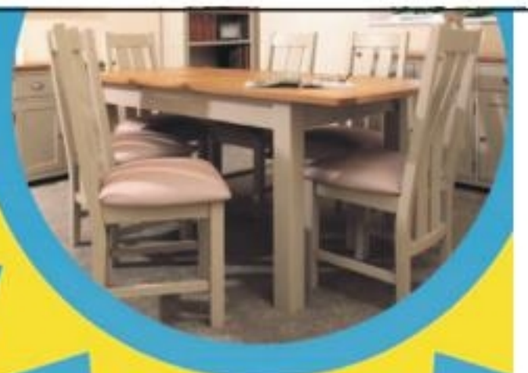

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Reports published on council change

TWO independent reports costing £200,000 and reviewing the structure of the county's councils, were published yesterday, revealing local authorities could save up to £113 million over five years.

Currently running as a two-tier system, the councils were looking to strike a deal to become a single unitary authority in order to receive more powers from central Government.

By **Dominic Thomas**

The reports were commissioned in April before the Government told the councils that there would only be a devolution deal if both sides were to work together, as the district councils' plans had previously tried to make the case for abolishing the county council. Since then, their publication had been postponed.

County council leader Ian Hudspeth said: "I welcome publication of both reports together so residents and everyone else with an interest in public service improvement can make up their own minds.

"It is clear that real progress will only be made through joint working with the districts and other public service providers, and I will do whatever I can to make sure that happens."

Meanwhile, Vale leader Matthew Barber, on behalf of the district and city leaders, said: "The district councils favour three unitary councils working together through a combined authority, while the county concludes that a single authority would be the best option.

"It is clear that the new Government's priorities in this area have changed and they are looking to councils to develop consensus.

"There are also many commonalities in the findings of the two studies and it is important that all councils now take some time to fully consider all of the evidence and how this might fit with the government's priorities."

PwC's report for the districts revealed that several of the options for the district authorities would still mean an annual deficit for the city council over the next five years.

However, it claimed all of their options, from having one authority to four, would result in overall savings of between £57 million and £113 million over five years.

The county's report, by Grant Thornton, also found that the single authority would be the most cost-effective, saving about £20 million a year by its estimations.

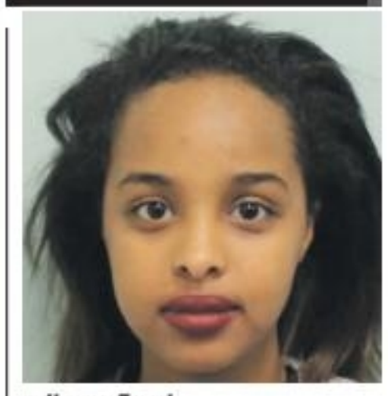
However, the reports also looked at the distribution of services, for which a larger system, made up of four authorities, would provide more democratic accountability, and noted that a single authority could be 'too remote'.

You can read the reports on the councils' websites.

• Ian Hudspeth

• Matthew Barber

News Bites


• Ikram Farah

Police warning

OXFORD: Police have warned the public not to approach a missing London teenager who might be in Oxford.

Ikram Farah, 16, who is said to be dangerous and vulnerable, was last seen on Sunday, August 14, in Camden.

She is described as black, 4ft 11ins, of medium build, with collar-length afro hair.

She is known to frequent the area, but has links to Birmingham, Hackney and Brent. Call Camden police on 101.

Cinema apology

DIDCOT: A cinema has apologised for showing a horror movie trailer ahead of screenings of family movies.

Cineworld in Didcot showed the trailer for The Bye Bye Man before Angry Birds and Robinson Crusoe on Friday.

A Cineworld spokesman said: "We are really sorry for any distress caused and have apologised to the customers affected as well as offering full refunds."

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Leadership contender makes Europe pledge

LABOUR leadership candidate Owen Smith promised he would make a case to remain in the European Union if he was the party's next leader, at a speech in Oxford on Tuesday.

The Pontypridd MP addressed an audience of Labour members numbering in the hundreds at Wesley Memorial Church in New Inn Hall Street.

Mr Smith shared his views and objectives on the future of the Labour Party, while also taking questions from the audience in Oxford, where over 70 per cent voted Remain in the EU referendum.

The challenger said: "The greatest token of our failure as a party is the fact that we are leaving the European Union.

"We should have fought harder, Jeremy should have fought harder.

"But we didn't and in so doing we let the Labour Party down and in my view let the country down.

"We've been a weak opposition for the last six years, not just with Jeremy.

"My message is that there is no binary choice that we face in the Labour Party between principles and power, and there is no shame in seeking power."

In a Q&A with the audience, he said of his stance on Europe: "If people voted out in good faith and if we feel that that is wrong, then we should be prepared to make a case for staying in the EU on their behalf in order to improve their livelihoods."

After the speech, one member of the audience, publisher Heather Benn, 33, of Oxford, said: "I don't think there's any shame in voting for Corbyn's values in a more marketable version, which is what I think we were seeing this evening."

• MP Owen Smith at the Wesley Memorial Church

Campaigners aim to form a human ring around site

Protest fights Horton cuts

By **Samantha McGregor**

PEOPLE are being urged to join a second protest over plans to reduce services at Banbury's Horton Hospital.

A cross-party protest will take place outside the main hospital entrance on Sunday, August 21, from 10.30am, led by campaign group Keep the Horton General and North Oxfordshire MP Victoria Prentis.

The campaign wants hundreds of people to join hands to ring the hospital site in the latest Hands Around the Horton event.

Weeks ago, a similar demonstration attracted more than 500 people.

Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust said the maternity unit was expected to be downgraded in October to a midwife-led unit due to "significant difficulty in recruitment" of middle-grade obstetric doctors.

On August 31, the Board of Directors of Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust will hold an extraordinary meeting to consider suspending obstetric services at the Horton from September.

Dr Bruno Holthof, chief executive, said: "The trust is trying very hard to fill these posts.

"At our meeting we will need to look at the numbers of obstetric middle-grade doctors we will have available to us at the Horton in October and take a decision with patient safety in mind."

Mrs Prentis said: "The Horton is a vital lifeline to hundreds of thousands of people; I will continue to do all that I can to ensure it remains the general hospital it is today."

Labour group leader Sean Woodcock said: "I will be at the Hands Around the Horton event in the vanguard with others and I hope the public turn out in support as they have done so far.

"It may be the last chance for local people to send a very clear message to decision-makers about what happens to our local hospital."

• Campaigners are gearing up for a second demonstration (photo by Ian Gentles)

Planning inspector rejects park appeal

• From front page

Council, business support organisation Bicester Vision and Bicester Traffic Action Group. The scheme, however, was supported by many residents and Kingsmere Community Association.

Upholding the council's decision, Mr Whitehead said: "I have found that the proposal would have an adverse impact on the character and appearance of the proposed future residential development in the surrounding area and a harmful effect on the flow of traffic on the surrounding highway network and could have an unacceptable effect on local infrastructure."

Cllr Colin Clarke, Cherwell's lead member for planning, said: "We know that there was some support in Bicester for this development but we also know from engaging directly with residents that traffic congestion around the town is one of their biggest concerns."

Residents took to social media to comment, with one saying: "I think it's time out locally elected officials faced the residents they are supposed to serve, again Bicester residents are left short in our ability to shop locally pushing us further out of town."

Another post said: "Bicester has been choked to death. Once upon a time it was a thriving little town that people used to travel to. We had clothes shops for men women and children. Toy shops, 2 shoe shops. Never had to travel out to buy anything. Such a shame."

• Next was signed up to open a store

News Bites

Food festival

BANBURY: Banbury Food Fair takes place this Sunday and will host more than 100 food and drink traders.

Also taking place will be Banbury flower and produce show, which will boast more than 600 exhibits.

Throughout the day, visitors will be able to pick up kitchen tips and tricks in the demonstration marquee, where one of the top attractions will be guest chef Jean-Christophe Novelli.

The fair runs from 10.30am to 4.30pm in Banbury Market Place.

Recycling bags

N OXON: Residents can get their hands on a reusable plastic bag from Cherwell District Council to help their recycling.

The bags are available at the Bicester recycling roadshow in Sheep Street on August 20, at Banbury food fair on August 21 or by calling 01295 227003 or emailing Felicity.Parker@cherwellandsouthnorthants.gov.uk

Rough sleepers

N OXON: A new 40-page guide for rough sleepers has been handed out in North Oxfordshire.

The Homeless Pocket Guide lists support available to them and since it was printed two months ago, more than 250 copies have been distributed.

Cherwell District Council figures for July showed there were nine entrenched rough sleepers across in the district.

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Watchdog labels village care home 'inadequate'

By **Dominic Thomas**

A CARE home in Steventon has been rated inadequate in a report by the Care Quality Commission (CQC).

The watchdog identified five different breaches of the Health and Social Care Act 2008 in its inspection of Oasis Private Care in Hanney Road in May.

The report published on Friday recorded the home's failure to report safeguarding incidents to the CQC, including one where a person alleged a member of staff assaulted them.

The report found that staff doing home visits were regularly late and, in some cases, did not turn up at all, leaving service users feeling unsafe, with one saying it left them "helpless and scared".

It said the manager, when asked, was unable to produce a sufficient staff rota.

The report rated the care home inadequate in two areas - its safety and whether the service was well-led.

It said the home also required improvement in two other areas - being responsive and effective

However, it was rated 'good' for being caring.

During the inspection, it was discovered that staff did not make adequate notes to ensure patient safety, and, in one case, left no instructions to staff as to why one patient required handrails on their bed.

The report said: "Staff were not provided with guidance to enable them to keep this person safe effectively. This put the person at risk."

In another instance, a diabetic person's care plan appeared blank, with no indication of their diabetes. There were found to be unsafe moving and handling practices in place, with one member of staff moving a patient on their own when another worker failed to turn up.

In the response to the report, a manager at the home said: "I am in the middle of contesting the report. This is not a true or factual report. They did not carry out the report properly."

In regards to the allegation of assault, she said the CQC had 'not even seen the care plan for that person'.

• Oasis Private Care in Steventon

Scientist tackles charity trek

AN Oxford scientist is gearing up for a gruelling non-stop 100km trek to raise money for Alzheimer's Research UK.

Francesca Nicholls, who works at the charity's Oxford Drug Discovery Institute, will be one of dozens of people taking part in Race the Tide next month.

It is a 30-hour endurance event along St Cuthbert's Way in Northumbria.

• Francesca Nicholls

Race the Tide covers a route stretching from Melrose in the Scottish Borders to Lindisfarne off the Northumberland coast.

Dr Nicholls and her fellow walkers will have 30 hours to complete the 100km challenge before the finishing point is cut off by the incoming tide, walking through the night to reach the finish line.

With more than 8,000 people in Oxfordshire living with dementia, Dr Nicholls, 31, was inspired to sign up for the challenge after seeing first-hand the research supported by the charity.

She said: "People have been really generous, and I'm sure that's because so many people are affected by dementia."

Jade Rolph of Alzheimer's Research UK said: "We're delighted that Francesca is joining us for Race the Tide – it's a big challenge but we know it will be a fantastic event with a hugely committed group of fundraisers."

To sponsor her, visit justgiving.com/fundraising/FrancescaJNicholls

News Bites

Plea over blood

OXON: A campaign is calling on Oxfordshire people to donate blood following an international decline in the number of donors.

NHS Blood and Transplant is urging people in Oxfordshire to help save lives by registering as new blood donors during the Missing Type campaign.

The campaign, involving 25 blood-donor organisations across 21 countries, aims to highlight an almost 30 per cent drop in people becoming blood donors last year compared to a decade ago.

Science plan

OXFORD: Oxford Science Park has submitted a planning application for a 61,500 sq ft (5,713 sq m) office and laboratory building with a roof terrace that could accommodate almost 500 people.

The park is owned by Magdalen College and contains more than 65 companies employing over 2,400 people.

Fire warning

OXON: Oxfordshire County Council's Fire and Rescue Service is urging householders to take extra care when using tumble dryers following a spate of recent fires involving the appliances across the country.

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Seeking views

W OXON: West Oxfordshire District Council is consulting with residents overamendments to its council tax reduction scheme which, if agreed, would come into effect from April 2017.

The scheme supports people on low incomes by reducing their council tax payments.

The amendments would:

- Limit the number of dependent children within the calculation to a maximum of two
- Reduce the period a person can be absent from Great Britain and still receive a reduction to four weeks
- Reduce backdating for new claims from six months to one month.

The consultation deadline is October 28 and a report will be considered by councillors in January 2017.

Housing protest

OXON: Oxfordshire health workers are to march against the county's housing crisis.

The Make Oxfordshire Affordable demonstration, co-organised by the Oxfordshire Unison Health Branch and other unions, will take place in Manzil Way on Saturday, September 3.

They will demand more social housing to be built, in addition to the implementation of wage rises so workers can afford to stay in the county.

Classic Cowley cars celebrated

By **Dominic Thomas**

MORE than 300 classic cars were on display on Sunday to celebrate Oxfordshire's rich motor manufacturing heritage.

The ninth annual Cowley Classic Car Show and Family Fun Day was held off Marsh Lane, Marston, to celebrate vehicles produced at the plant, opened by William Morris in 1912.

The event was run by the Oxford Isis Rotary Club and raised money for the charity See Saw, which supports bereaved children and young people.

Organiser Tanya Field, whose great grandfather was the financial backer of Morris in 1912, was also in attendance.

Mrs Field, who organised a convoy of classic cars on the day, said: "It was brilliant. It's really important to keep celebrating Cowley manufacturing and tell the younger generations about it.

"I brought my Rover 800 along and spoke to somebody who had worked on them for 30 years and had a good laugh about how the electrics don't work properly.

"There were also people who worked there, which is important. They love to see the cars they built and to be able to share their stories with the owners."

The day before, Mrs Field also hosted an exhibition of cars at Templars Square shopping centre in Cowley where she shared more stories of the factory.

"It was my third year at the centre and people know I'm there so they brought all sorts of things, like their long-service watches; certificates, clocking-in cards. It's lovely that they want to come and share them."

Meanwhile, Malcolm Fearn, who helped organise the event for Rotary, said: "We had more cars than ever before, about 300 ranging from cars to military vehicles and tractors.

"It's of especial interest to Oxfordshire people who come along who were involved in the production of the cars over the years so we get that personal social side as well."

He said the event looks set to have raised more than £6,000 based on a comparison with last year's figures.

Prizes were presented to the best 10 vehicles on display.

Out of the 10 prizes, the one for the best Cowley-built car went to Lana and Adam Silk for their 1929 Morris Cowley.

• *Richard Stevens, 78, is pictured with his red 1937 MG VA*

• *The Cowley Classic car show featured variants of the Morris Minor, left, and Mini, right*

Panini cheapskates set for Premier League challenge

AN Oxford couple who brought you hand-drawn pictures of all 800 football players in the 2016 European Championships are embarking on their latest challenge.

Known as the 'Panini Cheapskates', husband and wife Alex and Sian Pratchett, of Iffley Road, drew all 800 Euro 2016 Panini stickers in just 30 days, raising £3,791 for charity in the process.

• *Alex and Sian Pratchett with one of their World Cup stickers*

The couple managed to fill a European Championships sticker album with their own drawings, achieving their feat with 13 minutes to spare.

And now, with the new Premier League season kicking off last week with aplomb, their latest challenge will see them draw every player from all 20 Premier League teams.

They announced their plans on Twitter on Friday, saying: "The #EPL kicks off tomorrow. Join us as we attempt to (badly) draw every single 2016-17 Premier League player..."

On the day of the big kick-off, they tweeted: "Today's the day! Pencils are sharp, we've got a nice new eraser. 600+ #EPL players to draw. Wish us luck..."

During Euro 2016, the couple posted their drawings on social networking sites Twitter and Instagram, depicting all the players.

One of the more memorable drawings included the moment a moth landed on Portugal star Cristiano Ronaldo's face as he lay injured on the pitch in the final against France.

He had to be substituted but Portugal still went on to win 1-0 in extra time.

• *Cristiano Ronaldo (above) with a moth on his face, and Belgian midfielder Marouane Fellaini (pictures courtesy of @CheapPanini)*

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Group Managing Director Marcus McGee believes that Which? have endorsed Cloudy2Clear's long standing company policy of delivering the highest standards possible at all times. 'Our service is simple. If your double glazing has misted up we can replace the glass at a fraction of the cost of a new window, in any type of frame, and with a new 25 year guarantee. But it's not just about saving people money, although that obviously helps. Whilst a number of tradespeople perhaps don't focus on customer care as much as they should do, we make sure we turn up when we say we will, do the job the customer requires and leave their house as clean as a whistle.

Locally Cloudy2Clear service the Oxfordshire area from their local depots and manager James Miller agrees that this approach is a major factor in his success. 'The truth is that it's not just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people I've done work for, which just goes to show how much a little bit of effort is appreciated as both my customers and, obviously a body as nationally important as Which? now recognise.'

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Illustrator Karis selected as winner of art contest

By **Dominic Thomas**

AN Oxford illustrator has been named the winner of an Oxfordshire-wide art competition.

Karis Harrington, 33, who lives on a houseboat, won the GreenART competition run by Stagecoach in Oxfordshire and will see her artwork displayed on buses around the county, including the company's new 'green-engine' Euro 6 fleet.

Her piece 'Shake the Tree' was inspired by the environmental festival Low Carbon Oxford Week in June, and was named as the winner on Friday.

Six entries made a shortlist, which was put to a public vote via the bus company's Facebook page, with Miss Harrington's picture receiving over 600 likes.

Miss Harrington, who recently returned from a year in New Zealand, said: "When I initially saw the brief, it conjured up a lot of things I'd been thinking about since coming back to Oxford. Obviously Oxford is a massive green hub, and there's a lot of community and people helping each other out, and the idea of the tree was to get all the ideas into one place and being connected."

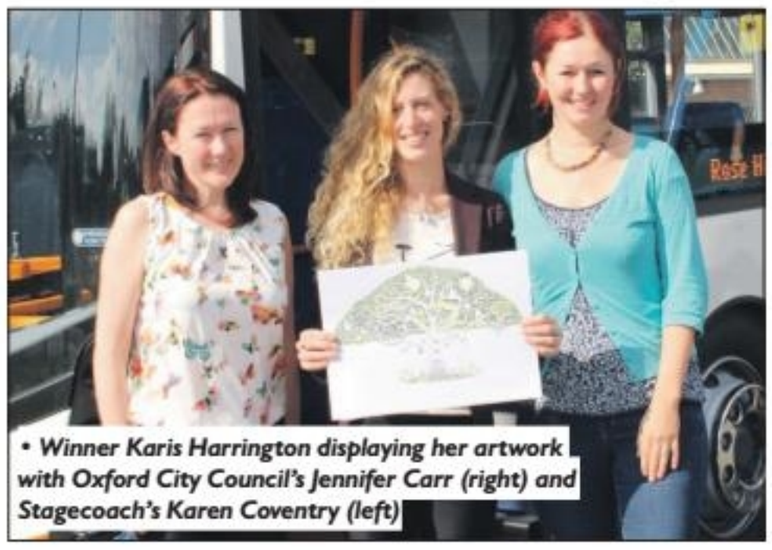
She said she developed more of an interest in living sustainably since deciding to go it alone as a freelance illustrator: "I realised how tough it was, which is when you have to become extremely frugal. I've never had a car or driven so whenever I've had to go anywhere I've completely relied on public transport.

"When I've been told I need to drive to get a job, I've cycled miles to places just to prove the point, so it seemed relevant to enter the competition."

Martin Sutton, managing director at Stagecoach in Oxfordshire said: "I couldn't be more delighted to see Karis' artwork inside our new Euro 6 engine buses.

"I hope our passengers will see the detail captured in 'Shake the Tree' and feel inspired to make one small change to protect our city."

Jennifer Carr, who headed Oxford's Low Carbon Week for the city council, said: "She also seems like a shining example of somebody that's living a sustainable lifestyle as well."



• *Winner Karis Harrington displaying her artwork with Oxford City Council's Jennifer Carr (right) and Stagecoach's Karen Coventry (left)*

Shaved to aid charity

STAFF at Helen & Douglas House in Oxford have had their heads shaved to raise funds for a colleague set to climb Mount Kilimanjaro.

The nurses and care team members at the Magdalen Road hospice gave up their hair to support the fundraising efforts of Jane Channon, who is climbing Kilimanjaro in September for the charity.

Douglas House nurse, Jamie Richards, from Wallingford, inspired the event and persuaded six colleagues to join her in having a drastic haircut.

They also donated hair to Hereford charity The Little Princess Trust, who makes wigs for sick children who have lost their own hair.

Their heads were shaved by Idlewild hairdressers, in Woodstock Road, Oxford, on August 9, raising a total of £400.

As well as Ms Richards, the other staff imvolved were Imogen Nomura and Laura Klepping; care team members Sarah Knowles, Monika Soltesz and chef Tenzin Namgyal.

• *Before and after - chef Tenzin Namgyal, left and right*

News Bites

Dementia boost

OXFORD: People in Oxford are being given the opportunity by the Alzheimer's Society to make a difference to the lives of local people with dementia by becoming Dementia Friends Champions.

Dementia Friends Champions are volunteers who help tackle the stigma and lack of understanding of dementia.

After attending a forthcoming Oxford induction day, the volunteers will deliver Dementia Friends sessions across the local area in the coming months.

The day-long session on September 5 at Oxford Ice Rink, Oxpens Road, from 10am to 4pm, is part of Alzheimer's Society Dementia Friends programme.

Manor boost

W OXON: Kelmscott Manor, near Faringdon, is to receive a £4.7 million grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund for repairs to the grade-I listed building.

The money will be used to upgrade the visitor facilities of the manor, dating back to 1570, which was the Cotswold retreat of poet William Morris.

Former Prime Minister and Witney MP David Cameron said: "It's so important that we do everything we can to preserve these historical buildings."

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News Bites

Meeting open

OXON: The public has been invited to attend Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group's (OCCG) Extraordinary Board meeting next week.

The meeting at Jubilee House on Oxford Business Park South on Thursday, August 25, between 11am and midday, is to consider OCCG's financial plan.

Colleges link-up

OXON: Abingdon and Witney College has announced a partnership with Ruskin College to provide accommodation for its higher education students at Ruskin's Old Headington halls from September 2016.

It aims to offer the students the chance to move to the Ruskin site during studies, to expand the reach of the college and to allow students to live independently.

£750,000 given

OXON: Thames Valley Police gives about £750,000 to charity annually from the proceeds of selling items confiscated from criminals.

One of the main beneficiaries is the Amersham-based charity Search Dogs Bucks, which trains dogs to help the police find lost people in and around Oxfordshire as well as Buckinghamshire.

MPs call for safety boost in wake of A34 tragedy

By **George Welch**

A CALL for safety improvements has been made by MPs after four people died in an eight-vehicle pile-up on the A34 last week.

The victims, from Bedfordshire, have not been officially named by police, but have been reported by various local media outlets as being 45-year-old Tracy Houghton, her two sons Ethan, 13, and Josh, 11, and her partner's 11-year-old daughter Amy Goldsmith.

Twelve others were injured in the collision, which involved four cars and four lorries, on the northbound carriageway near East Ilsley at 5.10pm on Wednesday.

A 30-year-old man from Andover was arrested on suspicion of causing death by dangerous driving, and has been bailed until October 5.

Oxford West and Abingdon MP Nicola Blackwood has lobbied for improvements to the A34 for years and has been keeping up the pressure on both the Department for Transport and the Local Enterprise Partnership to ensure improvements on the A34 go ahead.

In recent months she has met Roads Minister Andrew Jones to discuss a recent spate of accidents and push for a suitable timetable for improvements.

Following the crash, MP for Newbury Richard Benyon has also written to Mr Jones demanding that action is taken.

Last month, a petition was set up to reduce the speed limit on the A34 from 70mph to 50mph after 28-year-old Gavin Roberts died on June 15 from head injuries four days after a crash on the same stretch of road.

The petition saw a surge in supporters following last week's collision, with more than 1,850 people now having signed it.

A second petition has also been set up calling for a 50mph limit between Chieveley and West Ilsley, which has about 600 signatures.

A statement from Highways England said: "Our thoughts go out to all those affected by the recent tragic incident.

"Safety is our top priority and we consider any advice given by the police or other statutory bodies to improve safety."

• *The scene of last week's crash on the A34*

Firms named and shamed

A HAIRDRESSER in Witney has been forced to pay more than £3,000 to one of its workers after being named and shamed by the Government.

Woods Hair Ltd, which own Chapter's Hair Design in Witney, was one of six Oxfordshire business owners listed by the Government for paying below the legal minimum wage.

The hairdressers topped the Oxfordshire list, owing £3,676.87 to one of their staff, who has now been paid. In total, the six businesses will have to repay more than £11,500.

The list published by the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy named almost 200 employers across the UK who had failed to pay staff the minimum wage.

In response, Samantha Curtis, director at Chapters, said: "It feels like it's really unfair that we have been listed.

"That particular person was inherited by us when we took over the company. It wasn't until after they left they came back and claimed that money. Their date of birth was different to what they told us and we thought we were paying them the correct amount."

The list of firms:

- Woods Hair Ltd, trading as Chapters Hair Design, Witney, owed £3,676.87 to one worker
- Mr Nicholas and Mrs Christina Winstone-Partridge, trading as Wholesale Autoparts, Kidlington, owed £2,691.73 to one worker
- The Buck Project Ltd, Chalgrove, owed £1,915.15 to one worker
- Mr Ronald Archibald Mutton and Mrs Sandra Anne Mutton, trading as A1 Plumbing & Heating, Oxford, owed £1,834.13 to one worker
- The Dinner Bell Ltd, trading as The Chequers, Chipping Norton, owed £1,190.68 to one worker
- Mrs R Goff and Mrs E Butt, trading as Cotswold Equine Training, Burford, owed £268.72 to one worker

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Arrival of rare cubs celebrated

COTSWOLD Wildlife Park has been celebrating the birth of the first lion cub triplets in its 46-year history.

The park's pair of rare Asiatic lions, Rana and Kanha, made history with their first litter.

Born on May 25 at the park near Burford, the all-female litter of Kali, Sita and Sonika was successfully introduced to their father last week.

Park curator Jamie Craig said: "We have not bred lions for many years at Cotswold Wildlife Park so it is an exciting time for the mammal keepers.

By **George Welch**

"Our young pair are proving to be exemplary parents and although there was some trepidation when we reintroduced the lioness and her cubs to the male, all went without a hitch and they can now be seen playing happy families in their enclosure."

The parents, who are both five years old, moved to the park as part of the European Breeding Programme (EEP) and its keepers hoped that they would one day produce a litter of their own. Father Rana arrived at the park on Valentine's Day in 2013 from a zoological collection in France, and mother Kanha joined him one year later from Parken Zoo in Sweden.

The two formed an instant bond and, following a gestation period of four months, Kanha gave birth to the three cubs. Lionesses rear their babies in seclusion and often reject them if they are disturbed so the keepers watched the births remotely on CCTV monitors.

For almost two months, the triplets lived solely with their mother in the birthing pen.

Dad Rana remained in the neighbouring enclosure, but was often seen by the keepers taking a great interest in his new family. And, last week, the cubs were successfully introduced to him in the main outdoor lion enclosure.

The park says Kanha and Rana are proving to be exceptional first-time parents and the new-borns are healthy and developing into confident young cubs.

Asiatic lions are one of the world's rarest big cat species and wild population numbers have declined drastically over the last century, almost to the point of extinction.

Once found throughout much of South-West Asia, they are now only found in one isolated area – India's Gir Forest.

They are classified as endangered by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

• *pictures courtesy of Natasha Jefferies*

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Self-build home plots go on sale

• Graven Hill (photo by Martin Honey)

By **Samantha McGregor**

THE first plots at what will be the UK's biggest self-build development in Bicester go on sale next week.

Cherwell District Council bought the former Ministry of Defence site at Graven Hill in 2014 and has since set up Graven Hill Village Development Company (GHVDC) to handle the site's development.

The 187-hectare site has planning approval for up to 1,900 self-build homes, a primary school, employment space, a pub and shops.

The scheme will include kit homes, group-build schemes and individually-designed properties.

Ten plots and prices will be made available on August 22

People who live or work in Cherwell have been given a six-week priority period to talk to the sales team ahead of the plots becoming open nationally on August 22. So far, 125 people have expressed an interest.

Cllr Dan Sames, a GHVDC board director with responsibility for sales and marketing, said: "The first residents will be instrumental in shaping a new community for Bicester and we hope that those living and working in Cherwell will take advantage of the opportunities to be part of this exciting project."

The first plots will be for detached homes and are close to the location of the village centre. Buyers will purchase a 'Golden Brick', which includes the plot, the foundations built for them and a 10-year structural warranty for their home.

Philip Singleton, GHVDC's managing director, said: "The response so far from local people is very pleasing, which I believe reflects a recognition of the potential at Graven Hill.

"Because we are offering new and simpler ways to build your own home, and we offer plenty of support, self-build at Graven Hill is an attractive and realistic option for many more people.

"There is still time for local people to get ahead of the queue for the first 10 plots."

The site will be vacated by Bicester Defence Storage and Distribution Centre in stages so the council can start to build the infrastructure and the first homes.

Graven Hill is set to star in a six-part TV show 'My Grand Design', with presenter Kevin McCloud.

For more information, call 01295 753700 or view gravenhill.co.uk

News Bites

Urged to take part

N OXON: Residents and employers are being encouraged to take part in Cycle to Work Day.

Cherwell District Council has pledged its support to the national event, which takes place on September 14, and is offering incentives to those who take part.

Residents who post their cycle commuting photos or stories on the #cycletoworkday hashtag can enter the council's prize draw to win free leisure centre passes.

Raised in memory

BICESTER: A sum of £65,690 has so far been raised in memory of a Bicester cyclist who died after suffering a heart attack during a 100-mile cycle challenge through Surrey and London.

Robin Chard, 48, had set a target of £400 when he signed up to ride in aid of Cancer Research UK. View https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Robin-Chard

Have say on plan

THAME: Residents are being urged to make their views known on South Oxfordshire District Council's Local Plan 2032.

Among the proposals for Thame are 600 homes, a supermarket, 2.5 hectares of employment land and a reservoir plus a new settlement in Haddenham.

More than 300 people attended a public meeting last week at St Mary's Church. Comments should be sent to SODC and Aylesbury Vale District.

• Plans for Graven Hill

Bowled over by success

MORE than 500 people helped make the third Thame Cricket Club open day a "great success".

The event, organised by the club on August 7, was part of a nationwide initiative to promote cricket to local communities.

Held at the Church Meadow site, five teams competed in a centrepiece six-a-side tournament, which was won by Thame Town's under-16 team.

The tournament also "reinvigorated" a number of former players, leading them to sign up again.

This year, Chinnor Rugby Club's 'Rugby Tots' also came along to the event and held an open session for the two- to five-year-olds.

Matt Swain, the cricket club's vice-chairman, said the warm weather encouraged people to join the fun at Church Meadow.

He said: "The only thing that didn't take off for us on the day was the hot-air balloon ride, provided by J Bennett & Son, the insurance brokers. Unfortunately, the maximum wind speed for a hot-air balloon take-off is 10pmh and on the day the wind speed was close to 28mph!

"Our thanks go out to everyone that came along on Sunday, all the volunteers that helped to organise the event.

"All proceeds that were raised on the day will go towards building our new clubhouse and for new equipment for our junior section."

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Karate group set to play role in Paralympics flame event

By **Dominic Thomas**

AN Oxford charity has been chosen to take part in the Paralympic Games flame-lighting ceremony.

The Disability Karate Federation, founded by Ray Sweeney, of Marston, is a charity that teaches martial arts to disabled and disadvantaged people.

Mr Sweeney, along with athletes from the federation, will attend the heritage flame festival at Vale Park, near Stoke Mandeville, the home of the Paralympics, ahead of this year's Games.

Athletes with a range of disabilities will be performing an exhibition at the festival before being passed the Paralympic torch ahead of it making its way to Rio on September 6.

Mr Sweeney said: "Karate is not a Paralympic sport yet so we will be there to promote it as always, and this is a major opportunity for us to do so.

"We're doing a demonstration event where there will be three wheelchair users working with some non-disabled people and demonstrating some attacks and defences from a wheelchair."

As well as running both disabled-only and mixed ability sessions at schools and leisure centres, the federation also works around the country to help train coaches and write adapted coaching syllabuses for people with disabilities. He said: "For most people in sport in general there is a bit of a fear, so being able to write courses has been a major factor in being able to offer a development pathway for coaches to teach people with disabilities."

The federation is working with reigning karate world champion Dirk Van Der Merwe, from South Africa, who uses a wheelchair, to develop specially adapted coaching programmes.

Mr Van Der Merwe said of the federation: "They are an incredible organisation. They believe in inclusion, and that's the best thing, everybody is welcome and has an opportunity to take part.

"It's every person's dream to be part of something so massive as the Paralympic Games, and so we will get to fulfil that dream."

• Ray Sweeney and Dirk Van Der Merwe

News Bite

Food scheme

ABINGDON: Charities in Abingdon are being called on to register for a food donation scheme.

The project, headed by Tesco and FareShare, a food supply organisation, will see unsold food become meals for vulnerable people across the town.

The food is free and includes fruit, vegetables and bakery products as well as chilled ones such as meat and dairy.

Village housing plans approved despite fears

PLANS for 78 homes in Chinnor have been approved by the South Oxfordshire District Council despite strong opposition from residents.

The proposals attracted 149 objections from residents over impact on infrastructure and fears over the village becoming a 'dormitory town' for London.

Planning committee members voted five to three in favour of approval. The site of the application by A2 Dominion Development is north of Mill Lane and included 40 per cent affordable housing.

The committee said it had an obligation to grant approval due to the council having lost its five-year land supply, meaning the criteria for granting permission had changed.

Speaking of the cumulative effect of developments in Chinnor, Cllr Paul Harrison said: "To increase a village by 20 per cent is massive. The only reason this is even considered is because of the five-year land supply."

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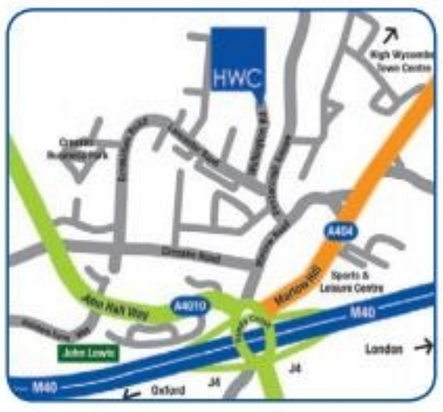

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News Bites

Free sessions

S OXON: Women in South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse can sign up for free exercise sessions this August and September.

Vouchers by Active Women offer up to six freeexercise sessions at The Park Club, Milton Park, or Willowbrook Leisure Centre, Didcot.

Stubble blaze

CASSINGTON: Prompt action by a farmer helped contain a fire in a field of straw stubble at Cassington.

Firefighters worked in "hot and strenuous conditions" to contain the fire in Burleigh Road at 6.35pm last Tuesday last week.

OAPs' light plea

WANTAGE: Pensioners at a Wantage retirement home say they are fed up of overgrown trees forcing them to spend the summer in darkness.

Residents of Betjeman Court, in Portway, say they have to keep lights on indoors all day to battle gloom because a large robinia tree in the car park of The Beacon civic hall and a giant sycamore from King Alfred's Academy block the light. They asked Vale of White Horse District Council, who owns The Beacon, to thin the trees but say they have not.

Vicar is spared prison for 'wicked' indecent assault

By **George Welch**

A RETIRED vicar from Charlbury who indecently assaulted a 14-year-old girl while his wife was pregnant has been spared a prison sentence.

Grandfather Grahame Humphries, 71, of Lees Heights, was given an eight-month jail term, suspended for two years, after admitting indecent assault on the teenager.

The assault took place 45 years ago, Kingston Crown Court was told on Wednesday last week. Judge Paul Dodgson heard how the girl's family had been spending time with Humphries while his pregnant wife was away.

Humphries admitted kissing the girl and touching her breasts over her clothes on a number of occasions between September 1971 and September 1972.

In a similar incident, Humphries entered the girl's bedroom when she was at home alone and insisted she took her clothes off, prosecutor Max Hardy said. The victim refused and later told her mother what had been happening.

Mr Hardy said the case came to court after the victim decided to go to police following extensive publicity around the Jimmy Savile scandal.

Humphries, who worked in parishes across England, most recently in Blockley in the Cotswolds before retiring in 2012, was ordered to pay £500 in costs, given a 24-month supervision order and told to sign the sex offenders' register for the next five years.

Judge Dodgson told the pensioner that he had blighted the victim's life while working in another parish.

He said: "Forty-five years ago when you were a young curate aged 27, you did something very wicked. You took advantage of your position of trust."

Charlene Sumnall, in mitigation for Humphries, said the victim had "found the strength of character to make the allegation" after seeing other people being taken seriously in relation to the Savile investigation.

The case comes as Thames Valley Police confirmed that reports of sex abuse across the Thames Valley have more than doubled in the last five years.

Hotel's appeal for memories

AS a historic five-star hotel in Oxford prepares to celebrate its 150th birthday later this year, its owners are calling on Oxfordshire residents to check their cupboards for any memorabilia.

The Macdonald Randolph Hotel in Beaumont Street is appealing for any relevant mementos after an anonymous local resident gave staff an historic artefact from the start of the 20th century.

The memorabilia left at the hotel was a menu, in French, from a 1901 dinner of the Metropolitan Railway Carriage and Wagon Company, a rail manufacturer which closed in 2005.

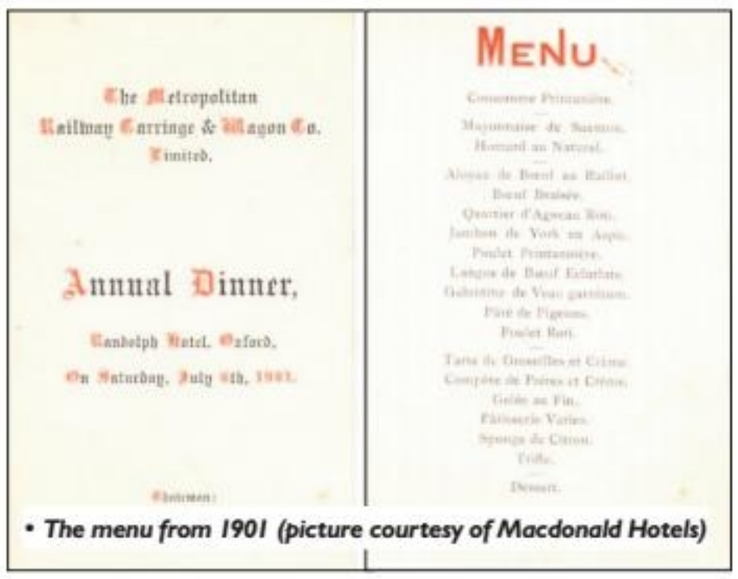
General manager Michael Grange believes there is likely to be a number of other memorabilia in the region and is keen to see what can be found in order to create a memory wall within the hotel to celebrate the 151-room hotel's birthday.

He said: "Receiving this menu was a wonderful surprise and a reminder that the Randolph has played a huge part in the lives of people in and around Oxfordshire over its many years.

"We have been trying to investigate the history of the hotel and this is a wonderful additional to our collection.

"We hope that there might be other pieces of history in the area and would encourage people to come to the hotel and share their memories with us."

The hotel, which was named after the Rev Dr Francis Randolph, an 18th century cleric, was built in 1864 by William Wilkinson to help boost the city's accommodation for the members of high society.



• *The menu from 1901 (picture courtesy of Macdonald Hotels)*

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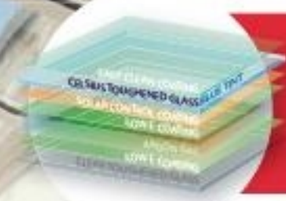

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Pupils lend hand to help in Africa

By Samantha McGregor

PUPILS from an Oxfordshire school have spent the summer holidays supporting a community thousands of miles away.

The 10 sixth formers from Kingham Hill School, near Chipping Norton, spent a fortnight volunteering for the Life Support charity in Zambia.

They lived and worked at Eden Farm, a children's village, which provides a safe home for orphaned and vulnerable children. During their stay, they painted and decorated a new chapel, taught at the school, ran youth church sessions and played games and sports with the children.

During one visit to Kapisha, the pupils joined singing, dancing and talked with the Nurture Ladies, a project funded by the Life Support project which empowers vulnerable and widowed women with enterprise and craft skills to help them earn money. For the visitors, it was a chance to develop communication and leadership skills.

Athena Harper, Latimer Girls day houseparent and trip leader, said: "It has been a joy to see the team immersing themselves in the culture and community of living life on Eden Farm. Every day saw a new challenge, from running the sports days, dodging spiders, epic bus journeys, cooking on coals and making the most of the sanctuary time - the team gave it their all.

"Lifelong memories and experiences have been made and I am very proud of all of them and what they achieved for Life Support and Eden Farm."

Before the group left for Africa, they raised more than £4,000 for the community from a string of events

Ms Harper added: "Being able to see how far every penny goes and taking pupils to see how their fundraising has impacted a community is an amazing privilege.

"There is now a chapel, two children's homes and two more on the way and the farm is continuing to expand and develop. It's a really exciting time to be involved."

The school has been visiting the farm since 2011 and has so far raised more than £14,000 to support the community.

•Kingham Hill School pupils gave up part of their summer holidays to help orphaned children in Africa

News Bites

Decision upheld

N OXON: A planning inspector has backed a council's decision to refuse permission for three homes to be built next to Ardley Village Hall.

Cherwell District Council refused planning permission in March on the grounds the proposed properties were out of keeping with the area.

Doggy paddle

C NORTON: Swimmers will be joined by their dogs in the last session of Chipping Norton lido.

Following last year's popular event to mark the end of lido season, dogs can join their owners for a dip from 7pm on Sunday, September 11.

Dogs cost £7.50 and owners and spectators are free. People must book in advance.

Afterwards, there will be barbecue and dog biscuits.

Recycle incentive

OXFORD: The call is out for charities and community groups to get involved in Oxford City Council's Blue Bin Recycling League competition – and be in with a chance of a monthly £400 cash prize.

The council has split Oxford into eight areas based on bin days and every month the area that improves its recycling rate the most will top the league and win.

And the winning area's residents can then vote for a local charity or community group to receive a £400 cash boost.

Sports village named

A NAME has been chosen for a new sports village in Bicester – with residents voting to keep a little bit of the site's history.

The development at Kingsmere will be called Whitelands Farm Sports Ground.

Residents were asked to email or post their favourite on social media, with 49 voting for Whitelands Farm, the site's former use, and 18 for Queen Elizabeth II Sports Ground, to mark the monarch's 90th birthday.

Cllr Richard Mould, chairman of Bicester Town Council's policy committee, said: "The shortlisting of names had significance for the past and the present and will now be used to recognise the site in the future.

"From now on, Whitelands Farm Sports Ground will be the official title of the new facilities which we hope will prove as popular as the name itself."

The cycling/jogging track and outdoor fitness equipment are already in use and the pitches are due to be put into use in the 2017/18 season.

Work will start in September on the building of a two-storey pavilion which will house sports club facilities on the ground floor including changing rooms, lockers, a treatment room and showers.

Upstairs, there will be a function room with a kitchen and bar with space to accommodate up to 150 seated guests. Car parking will also be provided and the facility is due to be opened in May 2017.

A membership to Bicester Leisure was up for grabs to all those who voted and the winner was Carlos Otalora.

• Part of the sports facilities

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Competition

WIN Dr.PAWPAW skincare goodies!

THE Oxfordshire Guardian has teamed up with multipurpose balm brand, Dr.PAWPAW for a chance to win some of their best selling products to celebrate their £2 off offer in Superdrug! (Available in selected stores until August 23rd)

Made from Fermented Papaya, Olive Oil and Aloe Vera, the wonder balms offer a seriously nourishing solution for a multitude of problems, use it to fix dry lips, cracked heals, on elbows, cuticle care, cosmetic finishing- the list is endless! Each winner will receive Dr.PAWPAW Original Balm, Dr. PAWPAW Pink Peach Tinted Balm and the Dr. PAWPAW Ultimate Red Tinted Balm.

Dr. PAWPAW has fast become a hit with make up artists, beauty bloggers and celebrities and are now available at Superdrug. For a limited time only Dr. PAWPAW has £2 off in selected Superdrug stores! Making the balm for all dilemmas even more affordable.

Closing date: Friday, September 2

(Offer available in selected stores only until August 23rd)

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For a chance to win simply answer the following question:

What oil is used in the Production of Dr. PAWPAW balm: Grapeseed or Olive?

Q: What oil is used in the Production of Dr. PAWPAW balm: Grapeseed or Olive??

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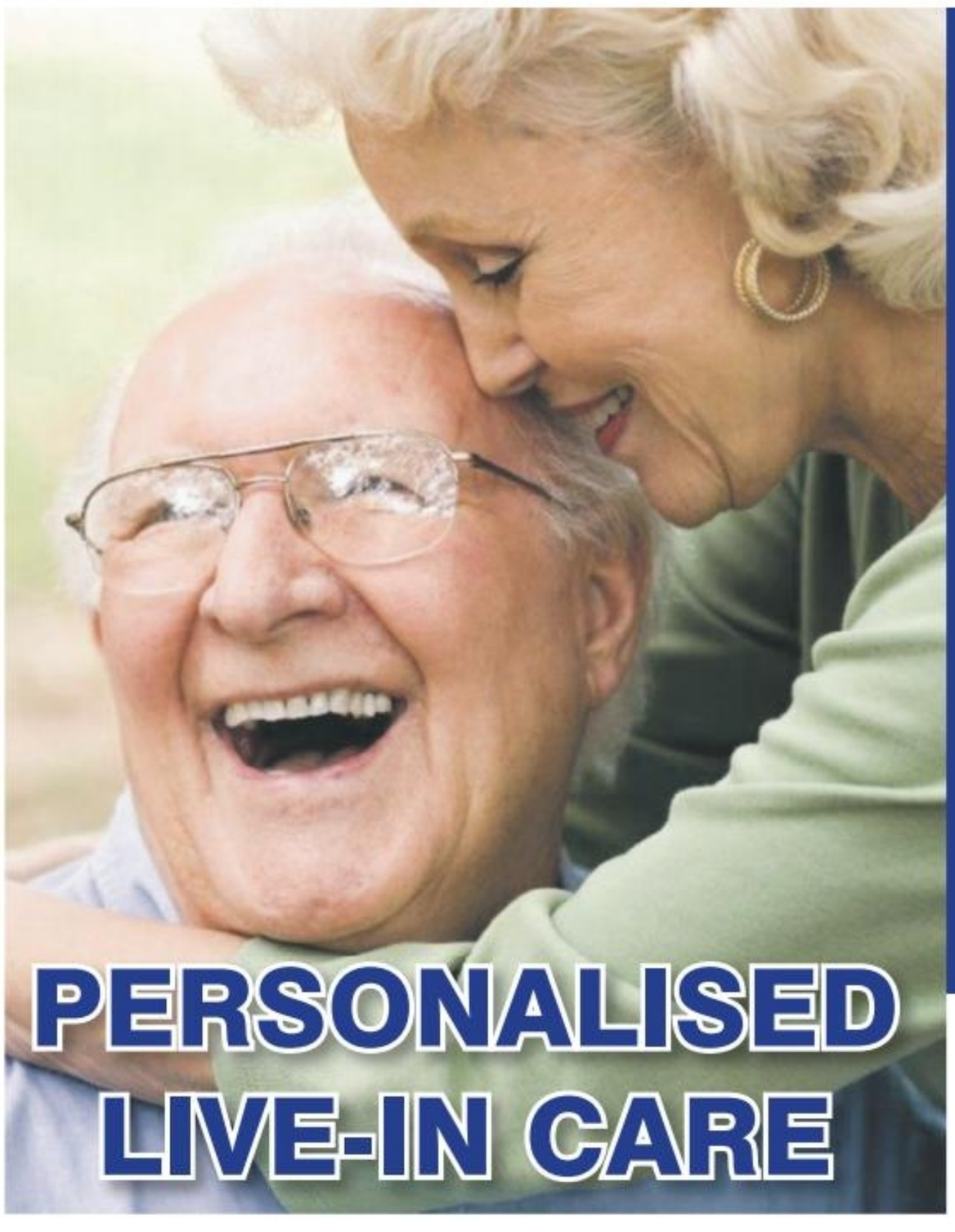

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Competition

WIN over £200 of goodies with Fopp!

THURSDAY 28th July will see the opening of a new Fopp store in Oxford, the store being located at 96-97 Gloucester Green, Oxford.

As a vibrant music and student city, Oxford is the perfect match for Fopp. Eight years after closing, Fopp is returning to Oxford to provide the very best in music, film and books at low prices. Oxford shoppers will find a wide range of vinyl, CDs, Blu-ray, DVDs, books and turntables as well as an extensive collection of music and film related T-shirts and merchandise.

Fopp began as a one-man stall in Glasgow, Scotland in 1981, selling affordable merchandise. Throughout the years Fopp has evolved and now with the addition of Fopp Oxford, it boasts nine stores throughout the UK and is considered the second largest specialist music retailer in terms of store numbers.

Oxford Fopp store manager James Eveleigh confirmed there would be live music performances in the new store, which is sure to draw mass appeal from the residents of Oxford. The first of which will be from English-based quartet Moose Blood who will be performing songs from their new album on Monday 8th August from 12.30pm.

James added "We would like to thank our many loyal customers in Oxford for their continued enthusiasm and support for the re-opening of their store. We look forward to once again providing the people of Oxford with the very best in film and music and look forward to welcoming Oxford entertainment shoppers to the brand new Fopp store this month."

As part of the opening celebration Fopp are supplying one lucky Oxfordshire Guardian reader with a pack of goodies worth over £200 that is a mixture of: classic albums on vinyl, classic British/American cinema, classic world cinema, music books and music posters

To be in with a chance of winning all you have to do is answer this simple question:

Q: Where in Oxford is the new Fopp store located?

Closing date: Monday, August 22.

To enter this competition and more like it, go online to www.oxfordshireguardian.co.uk

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BLENHEIM PALACE

Competition

WIN tickets to Towersey Festival

WITH over 50 years under it's belt, Towersey Festival has developed the knack of making a lot of people very happy.

Billy Bragg, The Wonder Stuff, Kate Rusby and Midge Ure are among the headline acts lined-up for the 52nd Towersey Festival (26-29 August 2016, Thame, Oxfordshire).

They're joined by the Ukulele Orchestra of Great Britain,Tom Robinson Band, Edward II, 9Bach, The Young'uns, Nizlopi and Nell Bryden, plus enduring Towersey favouritesRoy Bailey, Rusty Shackle andNancy Kerr and James Fagan. A whole bunch of other artists will be there over the four days and to see the full listing visit www.towerseyfestival.com

Well that's the grown-ups taken care of, but Towersey has a new focus on the younger members of the audience. Under the banner All About Children, the expanded programme promises a range of events, activities and workshops designed specifically to keep 5-11 year olds engaged and amused throughout the four-day summer fest'.

There's outdoor skills and learning, from den building to an exploration of wildlife habitat, as part of Green School, while a special family concert

Closing date: Monday, August 22

led by Johnny And The Raindrops promises raucous sing-a-longs and lots of dancing.

For those with an interest in performing, singer Marion Fleetwood, from acclaimed folk/ rock act TradArrr, will lead The Children's Festival Choir through their paces before an appearance alongside the group on The Big Club stage, and the Towzer! Bandshow their musical chops at the Family Grand Ceilidh – which this year takes place in the larger Festival Dance House. Other music-making workshops include ukulele lessons and a session with The Conservatoire Folk Ensemble, who close the festival on Monday (29 Aug).

"Our aim is for All About Children to be an amazing four days of entertainment, activity and learning, and a brilliant place to spend the last few days of the summer holiday – a real 'Festival Holiday Club' experience."

We have a pair of adult weekend tickets including camping and to be in with a chance of winning them all you have to do is answer this simple question:

Q: Which legendary band was Midge Ure in?

U2, Ultravox or The Boomtown Rats?

• Kate Rusby

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• Midge Ure

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Quick Clues Across

1 Understands (11)
9 Polish by friction (3)
10 Outer boundary (9)
11 Praise (5)
13 Small ship (7)
14 Latin poet (6)
16 One who prepares work for publication (6)
18 Loudly (7)
19 Sensational (5)
20 Trying to equal (9)
21 Sticky brown liquid from coal (3)
22 Delight (11)

Quick Clues Down

2 Sphere (3)
3 Scholar (5)
4 Continent (6)
5 Clad in white fur (7)
6 One who belittles (9)
7 One who rejects religious authority (11)
8 Those who do not believe in protective tariffs (11)
12 Baseness (9)
15 Weather (7)
17 One who operates a typewriter (6)
19 Not heavy (5)
21 Also (3)

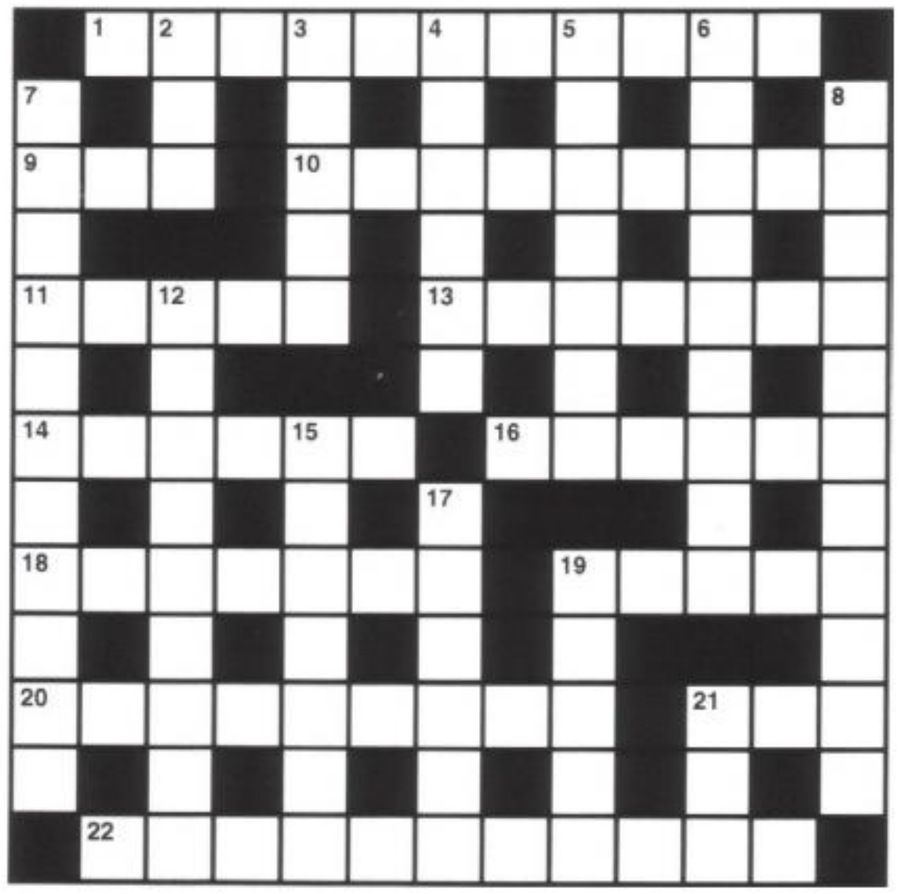
Scribble space

Cryptic Clues Across

1 Knock out empty cone for spare change (6,5)
9 Are making an organ (3)
10 Kit is somehow anti a religious follower (9)
11 Halts nearly a mile back for an afterthought (5)
13 Refer it to the conebearer (3,4)
14 Rest round centrally full effect (6)
16 Is the gambler superior? (6)
18 Sticky to let care run riot (7)
19 Move sideways, and support about fifty (5)
20 Unpleasant assault (9)
21 Part of the Bible for a worker (3)
22 A friend consuming the sea bird ate every other (11)

Cryptic Clues Down

2 Possibly stroke the blade (3)
3 Thrilling boots? (5)
4 Duty to quarrel about the rising sun god (6)
5 See nothing second-class to present (7)
6 For example, I'm back inside, told off for having gone abroad (9)
7 Last month on a trial about the announcement (11)
8 Final hearing for men up the street to make pretty speeches (11)
12 Domineering, but in reverse frets with an external maul (9)
15 Permission to abuse freedom (7)
17 Many is the stage I take on (6)
19 Exhausted - through writing in the street? (5)
21 Every part of the ballet (3)



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Liz, daughter of a Richmond Villages' resident

Are you in the situation where you know your elderly parent isn't coping at home?

Then a Village Suite at Richmond Witney, who have a new retirement village opening soon in Oxfordshire, could be the solution.

Here residents purchase their own apartments and enjoy a level of support which includes all meals, cleaning, laundry and household chores with the reassurance of personal care available if required.

For more information, please call

Tel: 01993 768692

or visit **www.richmond-villages.com/witney**

RICHMOND WITNEY

Part of Bupa

Is a care home really the best option for Mum?

So what do you do when you know your elderly parent isn't coping at home? You know they need looking after and a little extra support, but is a care home really necessary and is it the best and only option?

"It's a problem facing many people" says David Westerby, Village Manager at the soon to open Richmond Witney Retirement Village. "Every day family members tell me how fiercely independent their parents are, but the reality is often very different with many ageing parents reliant on a great deal of support from a combination of family, friends, neighbours and public services. The stresses on families can be enormous".

Of course families and friends are there to help as much as they can and generally do their utmost, but often they're not local and have many other important responsibilities and demands on their time. "It's a real conundrum" says David, "and often people are still isolated at home with no real quality of life despite the sterling efforts of their family and friends to sustain them".

So what is the alternative? In the past the only obvious solution has been residential care, but this might seem like an unnecessarily draconian step to take when, with a little extra care and support, an elderly parent can continue to enjoy a more independent lifestyle. The answer could be a Village Suite at award-winning retirement village operator Richmond Villages, who are part of Bupa. People purchase their own apartment and enjoy a level of support which includes all meals, cleaning, laundry and household chores, with personal care on hand 24/7 if required.

"Most people have at least one meal a day with friends in the restaurant or take the option of having meals brought to their apartment." continues David, "Dining with friends is a regular social occasion for most people, but the social aspect is enhanced further by our activities and events team who facilitate everything from bridge clubs to cultural festivals, all designed around the interests and wants of the people living at the Village. We also have our own fleet of vehicles and drivers meaning shopping and other routine journeys, as well as recreational outings, no longer requires ordering a taxi or relying on family or friends if you don't drive anymore."

Graham Wood, whose mother has been living in a Village Suite at a Richmond Village for five years, said "Mum's previous home had just become too much work for her. She wasn't coping well and it was all getting her down. Now she has her own beautiful apartment, a great social life and excellent facilities all on her doorstep. Not only has it been the perfect move for Mum, but knowing that support and help from Richmond Villages is there 24 hours a day is very reassuring for me and my family."

To find out more about the new Richmond Village at Witney, Oxfordshire, or any of the other Richmond Villages please call 01993 768692 or visit www.richmond-villages.com/assisted- living

Puzzles

Sudoku

The objective is to fill a 9×9 grid with digits so that each column, each row, and each of the nine 3×3 sub-grids that compose the grid (also called "boxes", "blocks", "regions", or "sub-squares") contains all of the digits from 1 to 9. The puzzle setter provides a partially completed grid, which for a well-posed puzzle has a unique solution.

EASY/MEDIUM/HARD

	7			4		9		6
				5	1	4	2	
8	5					7		3
9			6			8		
6	2		5		4		7	9
		3			2			1
2		1					8	5
	6	7	1	8				
4		9		6			3	

	3	4		7		9	1	
1	6						8	5
4			3		7			6
	5						3	
7			8		5			9
3	7						2	1
	4	8		9		6	7	

1		2			4			
6	5				8		3	
				2		1		5
		3					4	8
5	4					2		
3		8		5				
	1		9				6	3
			7			8		9

This week's solutions

9	1	8	3	4	7	5	6	2
7	6	5	2	8	9	1	3	4
2	3	4	6	5	1	9	7	8
3	9	8	5	6	4	7	2	1
5	4	6	8	7	2	3	1	9
8	2	1	4	9	3	6	5	7
6	5	7	1	3	8	2	9	4
4	8	9	7	2	5	1	3	6
1	7	3	9	1	6	4	8	5

8	9	4	5	6	7	2	1	3
2	4	8	5	9	1	6	7	3
3	7	9	4	8	6	5	2	1
7	2	3	8	6	5	1	4	9
8	5	6	9	1	4	2	3	7
4	9	1	3	2	7	8	5	6
1	6	7	2	4	9	3	8	5
5	3	4	6	7	8	9	1	2
9	8	2	1	5	3	7	6	4

7	3	1	5	6	2	9	4	8
5	6	9	7	1	8	3	2	4
2	3	1	4	7	9	6	8	5
7	4	3	9	2	5	6	8	1
6	2	8	1	4	3	7	9	5
9	1	5	6	3	7	8	4	2
8	5	4	9	2	6	1	3	7
3	7	6	2	5	1	4	2	9
1	9	2	3	8	4	5	7	6

Quick Crossword

Across: 1 Comprehends 9 Rub 10 Perimeter 11 Extol 13 Pinnace 14 Horace 19 Editor 18 Noisily 19 Lurid 20 Emulating 21 Tar 22 Delectation

Down: 2 Orb 3 Pupil 4 Europe 5 Enmined 6 Detractor 7 Freethinker 7 Freetraders 12 Turpitude 15 Climate 17 Typist 19 Light 21 Too

Cryptic Crossword

Across: 1 Pocket money 9 Ear 10 Christian 11 Limps 13 Fir tree 14 Result 16 Better 18 Trade 19 Slide 20 Offensive 21 Ant 22 Alternately

Down: 2 Oar 3 Kicks 4 Tariff 5 Observe 6 Emigrated 7 Declaration7 Endearments 12 Masterful 15 Licence 17 Legion 19 Spent 21 All

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Coming in to land

WITH two members from St Helena, one out of the US and another from Oxford, the Stanford in the Vale-based band The Wirebirds will be touching down to play a gig at The Nag's Head in Abingdon on Saturday, August 26. See inside for more.

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Saturday August 20th

BBC1

DAYTIME

6.00 Olympic Breakfast (S) **10.00 Saturday Kitchen** (S) **11.30 Lorraine's Fast, Fresh and Easy Food** (S)(R) **12.00 BBC News;** Weather (S) **12.10 Football Focus** (S) **12.45 Olympics 2016** Canoe sprint, badminton, taekwondo and women's triathlon coverage. (S) **5.30 BBC News** (S) **5.40 BBC Regional News; Weather** (S) **5.50 Olympics 2016** Live boxing and diving coverage on day 15. (S)

7

8

9

10 **10.20 BBC News;** Weather (S)
10.40 Match of the Day Gary Lineker presents highlights of the latest Premier League matches; (S) National Lottery Update (S)

11

AFTER 12 **12.10 Olympics 2016.** Athletics, taekwondo and volleyball coverage on day 15. (S) **4.00** Weather for the Week Ahead (S) **4.05** BBC News (S)

BBC2

6.15 FILM Night Song (1948) (S) **7.55 FILM Whisky Galore! (1949) (U)** (S) **9.15 Olympics: Rio Highlights 2016** (S) **1.00 Bargain Hunt** (S)(R) **1.45 Escape to the Country** (S)(R) **2.30 Flog It!** (S)(R) **3.00 Full Steam Ahead** (S)(R) **4.00 Final Score** (S) **5.30 Olympics 2016** (S) **5.50 The A to Z of TV Gardening** (S)(R) **6.00 Gardeners' World** (S)(R) **6.30 Dad's Army** (S)(R)

7.00 Proms Extra (S)
7.40 BBC Proms 2016 Valery Gergiev conducts the Munich Philharmonic Orchestra in Ravel's Bolero. (S)

9.40 Edinburgh Nights Kirsty Wark interviews Booker prize-winning author James Kelman. (S)

10.10 The National Lottery Live The all-important numbers, presented by Sonali Shah. (S)
10.20 Olympics 2016 Clare Balding and Mark Chapman present the latest action on day 15 in Rio. (S)

12.10 FILM Infamous (2006) (15) Biographical drama, starring Toby Jones. (S) **2.05 FILM Oslo, August 31st (2011) (15)** Drama, starring Anders Danielsen Lie. **3.30** This Is BBC Two (S)

ITV

6.00 CITV 8.25 ITV News (S) **8.30 Weekend** (S) **9.25 Murder, She Wrote** (S)(R) **11.25 FILM Columbo: Identity Crisis (1975) (12)** (S) **1.25 ITV News;** Weather (S) **1.35 River Monsters** (S)(R) **2.00 The Chase** (S)(R) **3.00 Doc Martin** (S)(R) **4.05 FILM The Mummy Returns (2001) (PG)** (S) **6.20 ITV Regional News;** Weather (S) **6.30 ITV News** (S) **6.45 You've Been Framed! Gold** (S)(R)

7.15 Spotless New series. Game show in which couples are tasked with completing fiendish wet paint-based games. (S)

8.15 Catchphrase Guessing game, hosted by Stephen Mulhern. Last in the series. (S)

9.00 FILM The Bourne Supremacy (2004) (12) Action thriller sequel, with Matt Damon and Brian Cox. (S)

11.00 ITV News; Weather (S)
11.15 The Jeremy Kyle Show USA The host takes his successful talk show stateside. (S)(R)

12.10 Jackpot247 3.00 Murder, She Wrote (S)(R) **3.50** ITV Nightscreen

Channel 4

6.40 Gillette World Sport (S) **7.05 Motor Sport: Volkswagen Racing Cup** (S) **7.30 Everybody Loves Raymond** (S)(R) **9.00 The Morning Line** (S) **10.00 Frasier** (S)(R) **11.00 The Big Bang Theory** (S)(R) **12.20 The Simpsons** (S)(R) **1.45 Channel 4 Racing** Coverage of the final day of the Ebor Festival at York, plus racing from Sandown Park. (S) **4.30 Come Dine with Me** (S) **6.35 Channel 4 News** (S)

7.00 FILM Men in Black 3 (2012) (PG) Sci-fi comedy sequel, starring Will Smith and Josh Brolin. (S)

9.00 There's Something About Romcoms Hollywood stars shed light on the making of celebrated rom-coms. (S)

10.35 FILM I Give It a Year (2013) (15) Romantic comedy, with Rose Byrne and Rafe Spall. (S)

12.30 Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA (S)(R) **1.20 FILM Call Girl (2012) (18)** Premiere. Drama, starring Sofia Karemyr. **3.45** Hollyoaks (S)(R) **5.45** Superfoods: The Real Story (S)(R)

Channel 5

6.00 Milkshake! 8.25 The Fairly OddParents Catman has used up eight of his nine lives. (S) **9.00 The Saturday Show Live** Topical show looking at the week's headlines. (S) **11.10 Police Interceptors** (S)(R) **2.00 The Nightmare Neighbour Next Door** (S)(R) **4.00 Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away** (S)(R) **6.05 NCIS: Los Angeles** Dom activates a distress signal. (S)(R)

7.00 NCIS Movie: Race Against Terror Feature-length episode. Gibbs is injured in an explosion. (S)(R)

8.50 5 News Weekend (S)

9.00 Football on 5: The Championship George Riley and Lynsey Hipgrave introduce highlights from the weekend's games. (S)

10.00 Football on 5: Goal Rush Goals from the weekend's games in the Leagues One and Two. (S)
10.30 Celebrity Big Brother Catching up with the celebrities as they react to Friday night's eviction.

11.30 V Festival 2016 Featuring headliner Justin Bieber. (S)

12.15 SuperCasino 3.10 Celebrity Big Brother (R) **4.00** GPs: Behind Closed Doors (S)(R) **4.50** Divine Designs (S)(R) **5.15** Nick's Quest (S)(R) **5.40** Angels of Jarm (S)(R) **5.50** Roary the Racing Car (S)(R)

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ITV2 SKY: 118 FV: 6

6.00 Blue: The Hot Desk **6.10** Emmerdale **9.15** Coronation Street **11.45** The X Factor: Top 10 Worst Auditions **12.45** Ninja Warrior UK **1.45** You've Been Framed: Gold: A-Z **2.45** FILM: Batteries Not Included (1987) (PG) Sci-fi fantasy, starring Jessica Tandy. **3.45** FYI Daily **3.50** FILM: Batteries Not Included (1987) (PG) Concluded. **4.50** The X Factor: Top 10 OMG! Moments **5.55** FILM: The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (2013) (12) Fantasy adventure sequel, starring Martin Freeman. **6.55** FYI Daily **7.00** FILM: The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (2013) (12) Concluded. **9.00** FILM: Hall Pass (2011) (15) Premiere. Comedy, starring Owen Wilson. **10.00** FYI Daily **10.05** FILM: Hall Pass (2011) (15) Concluded. **11.05** Family Guy **12.35** American Dad! **1.35** The Cleveland Show **2.30** Mom **2.50** Teleshopping **5.50** ITV2 Nightscreen

ITV3 SKY: 119 FV: 10

6.00 Judge Judy **6.40** Where the Heart Is **8.40** Heidi **10.45** Lewis **2.45** FILM: Calamity Jane (1953) (U) Musical comedy Western, starring Doris Day. **3.50** FYI Daily **3.55** FILM: Calamity Jane (1953) (U) Concluded. **4.55** Foyle's War **7.00** Doc Martin **8.00** Lewis **10.00** Agatha Christie's Marple **12.05** Inspector Morse **2.10** ITV3 Nightscreen **2.30** Teleshopping

BBC4 SKY: 116 FV: 9

1.00 Olympics 2016. The penultimate day of the Games gets under way with badminton and diving. **4.00** Olympics 2016. Diving, cycling and golf coverage on day 15. **7.00** Olympics 2016. Golf, handball, basketball and football coverage. **10.00** Olympics 2016. Live football coverage and water polo highlights. **2.00** Britain on Film: Messing About in Boats **2.30** Sounds of the 70s **3.00** Acoustic at the BBC **3.55** Close

E4 SKY: 136 FV: 28

6.00 Jane the Virgin **6.45** Baby Daddy **7.35** How I Met Your Mother **8.35** Melissa & Joey **11.00** Made in Chelsea: South of France **12.00** New Girl **12.30** The Goldbergs **2.30** Brooklyn Nine-Nine **3.30** FILM: Journey to the Center of the Earth (2008) (PG) Fantasy adventure, starring Brendan Fraser. **5.30** The Big Bang Theory **9.00** FILM: Die Hard (1988) (18) Action thriller, starring Bruce Willis. **11.40** Gogglebox **1.20** Rude Tube: Animal Madness **2.25** 2 Broke Girls **3.05** Angie Tribeca **3.30** Gogglebox **4.10** The Mindy Project **4.50** Revenge

MORE4 SKY: 138 FV: 14

8.55 Kirstie's Vintage Gems **9.25** Time Team **10.20** Come Dine with Me **1.05** Four in a Bed **3.50** Great Canal Journeys **6.55** Location, Location, Location **8.00** Grand Designs **9.00** 8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown **11.05** Channel 4 Comedy Gala 2016: Best Bits **11.55** Father Ted **1.00** 8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown **3.10** Channel 4 Comedy Gala 2016: Best Bits **3.55** Close

FILM4 SKY: 315 FV: 15

11.00 Catch That Kid (2004) (PG) Comedy adventure, starring Kristen Stewart. **1.00** Short Circuit 2 (1988) (PG) Sci-fi comedy sequel, with Fisher Stevens. **3.20** Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen (2009) (12) Sci-fi adventure sequel, starring Shia LaBeouf. **6.20** Master and Commander: The Far Side of the World (2003) (12) Seafaring drama, starring Russell Crowe. **9.00** The Purge (2013) (15) Horror, starring Lena Headey. **10.40** Cheap Thrills (2013) (15) Premiere. Comedy thriller, starring Pat Healy. **12.20** In Fear (2013) (15) Horror, starring Iain De Caestecker and Alice Englert. **2.00** Donkey Punch (2008) (18) Thriller, starring Jaime Winstone. **4.00** Close

DAVE SKY: 111 FV: 12

7.00 Rocket City Rednecks **7.20** Sin City Motors **8.10** Top Gear **9.00** Storage Hunters **10.00** Storage Hunters UK **11.00** Top Gear **4.00** Storage Hunters **5.00** Storage Hunters UK **5.30** Storage Hunters **6.30** Storage Hunters UK **7.00** Dynamo: Live at the O2 **8.30** QI **9.10** Gavin & Stacey **11.05** Dave Gorman: Modern Life Is Goodish **12.05** Alan Davies: As Yet Untitled **1.05** QI **3.05** Dave Gorman: Modern Life Is Goodish **4.00** Close

DRAMA SKY: 158 FV: 20

7.10 Lovejoy **11.00** Sharpe **1.00** New Tricks **6.00** Dalziel & Pascoe **8.00** Murdoch Mysteries **9.00** FILM: Legal Eagles (1986) (PG) Comedy mystery, starring Robert Redford. **11.15** Waking the Dead **1.40** Sharpe **3.35** Garden Hopping **4.00** Close

SKY1 SKY: 106

6.00 The Dog Whisperer **7.00** Ashley Banjo's Secret Street Crew **9.00** The Fantasy Football Club **10.00** Soccer AM **11.30** What's Up **12.00** Futurama **2.30** Modern Family **5.30** The Simpsons **6.00** Star Wars: Greatest Moments **8.00** Carpool Karaoke **9.00** FILM: Enemy of the State (1998) (15) Thriller, starring Will Smith. **11.30** A League of Their Own **12.30** Modern Family **1.00** The Last Ship **2.00** Arrow **4.00** Road Wars **5.00** Big Cats: An Amazing Animal Family

SKY ATLANTIC SKY: 108

6.00 The Guest Wing **7.00** Networks of Power with Sir Christopher Meyer **8.00** Cold Case **11.00** David Attenborough's Conquest of the Skies **12.00** Blue Bloods **5.00** Without a Trace **9.00** Game of Thrones **11.15** Last Week Tonight with John Oliver **11.50** Dice **1.00** The Sopranos **2.10** Cold Case **4.00** The Guest Wing **5.00** Networks of Power with Sir Christopher Meyer

W SKY: 109

6.00 Dynamo: Top Ten Greatest Moments **6.20** DIY SOS: The Big Build **8.05** The Bill **1.10** EastEnders **3.40** Extreme Makeover: Home Edition **7.40** Outnumbered **9.00** Jonathan Creek **10.10** Sherlock **12.10** Motorway Cops **1.15** Being Human USA **3.00** Home Shopping

GOLD SKY: 110

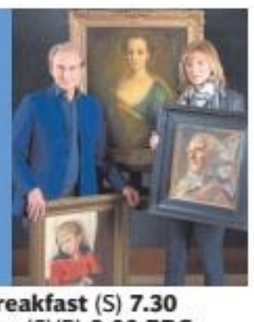
7.00 Jeeves and Wooster **9.15** Only Fools and Horses **3.30** FILM: The Likely Lads (1976) (PG) Comedy based on the TV series, starring James Bolam and Rodney Bewes. **5.15** Last of the Summer Wine **9.00** FILM: Privates on Parade (1982) (15) Comedy drama, starring John Cleese. **11.20** Monty Python's Best Bits (Mostly) **12.00** Monty Python Live: One Down, Five to Go **1.05** Monty Python's Best Bits (Mostly) **1.45** Monty Python: Before the Flying Circus **3.00** Monty Python's Best Bits (Mostly) **3.35** Cheers **4.00** Close

SKY SPORTS 1 SKY: 401

6.00 Football Gold **6.30** Friday Night Football **7.00** Premier League Preview **7.30** Football Gold **8.00** Premier League Preview **8.30** Football Gold **9.00** The Fantasy Football Club **10.00** Soccer AM **11.30** Live Premier League. Stoke City v Manchester City (Kick-off 12.30pm). Coverage of the opening top-flight fixture of the day, which takes place at the Bet365 Stadium. **3.00** Gillette Soccer Saturday **5.15** Live EFL. Derby County v Aston Villa (Kick-off 5.30pm). Coverage of the Championship encounter at the iPro Stadium, as the visitors' first season in the second tier since 1987/88 continues. **8.00** EFL Goals **8.30** Nissan Game of the Day **10.30** Nissan Match Choice **11.30** Premier League Highlights

Sunday August 21st

BBC1



Fake or Fortune?, 9pm

DAYTIME **6.00 Olympic Breakfast** (S) **7.30 Match of the Day** (S)(R) **9.00 BBC News** (S) **10.00 Sunday Morning Live** (S) **11.00 Homes Under the Hammer** (S)(R) **12.00 Bargain Hunt** (S)(R) **12.45 BBC News;** Weather (S) **1.00 Olympics 2016** (S) **5.00 BBC News** (S) **5.20 BBC Regional News; Weather** (S) **5.30 Countryfile** (S) **6.30 Olympics 2016** Live men's boxing and a review of the Games. (S)

7

8

9 **9.00 Fake or Fortune?** Fiona Bruce and Philip Mould investigate the truth behind three mysterious portraits. Last in the series. (S)

10 **10.00 BBC News** (S) **10.20 BBC Regional News; Weather** (S) **10.30 Match of the Day 2** Manish Bhasin presents action from the latest Premier League matches.

11 **11.25 Olympics 2016** Live coverage of the closing ceremony from the Maracana in Rio. (S)

AFTER 12 **4.00 Weather for the Week Ahead** (S) **4.05** BBC News (S)

BBC2

Dragons' Den, 9pm

6.15 Gardeners' World (S)(R) **6.45 Countryfile** (S)(R) **7.45 Saturday Kitchen Best Bites** (S)(R) **9.15 Olympics: Rio Highlights 2016** (S) **1.00 FILM Pal Joey (1957) (U)** (S) **2.45 Flog It!** (S)(R) **3.25 Highlands: Scotland's Wild Heart** (S)(R) **4.25 Songs of Praise** (S) **5.00 Olympics 2016** Further live action on the 16th and final day in Rio. (S) **6.30 Wallace & Gromit: The Wrong Trousers** (S)(R)

7.00 Cats v Dogs: Which Is Best? Part one of two. Chris Packham and Liz Bonnin put cats and dogs head to head. (S)(R)

8.00 Robot Wars Dara O Briain and Angela Scanlon present more battles, featuring one of the tallest robots to ever enter the arena. (S)

9.00 Dragons' Den The panel assesses more money-spinning ideas. Evan Davis presents. (S)

10.00 Fleabag New series. Comedy, written by and starring Phoebe Waller-Bridge. (S)
10.30 Murder in Successville New series. DI Sleet is framed for murder. (S)

11.00 FILM Sex & Drugs & Rock & Roll (2010) (15) Biopic of influential punk singer Ian Dury. With Andy Serkis. (S)

12.50 Sign Zone: Countryfile (S)(R) **1.45** NYPD: Biggest Gang in New York? (S)(R) **2.30** This Is BBC Two (S) **5.45** Paul Martin's Handmade Revolution (R)

ITV

Midsomer Murders, 8pm

6.00 CITV 8.25 ITV News (S) **8.30 Weekend** (S) **9.25 Murder, She Wrote** (S)(R) **11.15 FILM Columbo: Swan Song (1974) (PG)** (S) **1.15 ITV News;** Weather (S) **1.20 Long Lost Family** (S)(R) **2.20 The Chase** (S)(R) **3.20 FILM The Incredible Hulk (2008) (12)** (S) **5.25 Masterpiece with Alan Titchmarsh** (S)(R) **6.25 ITV Regional News;** Weather (S) **6.40 ITV News** (S)

7.00 The Zoo Vets face a difficult decision regarding a sick 15-year-old lioness following an exploratory operation. (S)(R)

8.00 Midsomer Murders The race leader of an international cycling competition is murdered. (S)(R)

10.00 ITV News; Weather (S)
10.20 Slow Train Through Africa with Griff Rhys Jones The comedian takes in the sights of Victoria Falls. (S)(R)

11.15 Tipping Point Ben Shephard hosts the arcade-themed quiz show. (S)(R)

12.15 Jackpot247 3.00 Motorsport UK (S) **3.50** ITV Nightscreen **5.05** The Jeremy Kyle Show (S)(R)

Channel 4

A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun, 5.35pm

6.15 Shipping Wars (S)(R) **6.40 The King of Queens** (S)(R) **7.30 Frasier** (S)(R) **8.30 The Big Bang Theory** (S)(R) **9.30 Sunday Brunch** (S) **12.30 The Simpsons: Mr Burns Day** (S)(R) **4.30 Location, Location, Location** Kirstie Allsopp and Phil Spencer search for two homes in Yorkshire. (S)(R) **5.35 A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun** A retired vet looks for a holiday home in Crete. (S) **6.30 Channel 4 News** (S)

7.00 Posh Pawn New series. A sculptor wants to sell a life-size statue of David Beckham. (S)

8.00 FILM Transformers: Dark of the Moon (2011) (12) Premiere. Sci-fi adventure sequel, with Shia LaBeouf and Rosie Huntington-Whiteley. (S)

11.00 FILM The Grey (2011) (15) Adventure, starring Liam Neeson and Frank Grillo. (S)

1.10 Friday Night Dinner (S)(R) **1.40** Walking the Himalayas (S)(R) **2.35** The World's Weirdest Weather (S)(R) **3.30** China: Treasures of the Jade Empire (S)(R) **4.25** Phil: Secret Agent Down Under (S)(R) **5.15** Location, Location, Location (S)(R)

Channel 5

V Festival Live, 10pm

6.00 Milkshake! 9.55 The Fairly OddParents (S) **10.30 Football on 5: The Championship** (S)(R) **11.30 Football on 5: Goal Rush** (S)(R) **12.00 FILM Christmas Song (2012) (PG)** (S) **1.45 FILM The Christmas Bunny (2010) (PG)** (S) **3.40 FILM Lucky Christmas (2011) (PG)** Romantic drama, with Elizabeth Berkley and Jason Gray-Stanford. (S) **5.25 FILM Defending Santa (2013) (PG)** (S)

7.00 Christmas Makes You Laugh Out Loud Iain Lee presents Christmas-themed videos. (S)(R

8.00 Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away! Christmas Special The world o debt collection during the festive period. (S)(R)
8.55 5 News Weekend (S)

9.00 Celebrity Big Brother The remaining housemates embark on their final week, knowing only one of them can be crowned Celebrity Big Brother winner on Friday night. (S)

10.00 V Festival Live The second of two live broadcasts from the festival. (S)

DIGITAL

ITV2 SKY: 118 FV: 6

6.00 Planet's Funniest Animals **6.20** You've Been Framed! Gold **6.45** Emmerdale **9.55** Coronation Street **12.20** The X Factor: Top 10 OMG! Moments **1.20** Take Me Out **2.50** You've Been Framed! **3.20** FILM: The Smurfs 2 (2013) (U) Fantasy comedy sequel, starring Hank Azaria. **4.20** FYI Daily **4.25** FILM: The Smurfs 2 (2013) (U) Concluded. **5.25** The Xtra Factor: Top 10 Judge Moments **6.25** FILM: Corpse Bride (2005) (PG) Stop-motion animated fantasy, with the voice of Johnny Depp. **7.25** FYI Daily **7.30** FILM: Corpse Bride (2005) (PG) Concluded. **8.00** FILM: Evan Almighty (2007) (PG) Comedy sequel, starring Steve Carell. **9.05** FYI Daily **9.10** FILM: Evan Almighty (2007) (PG) Concluded. **10.00** Family Guy **12.00** American Dad! **12.55** Bordertown **1.25** The Cleveland Show **2.20** Teleshopping **5.50** ITV2 Nightscreen

ITV3 SKY: 119 FV: 10

6.00 Movies Now **6.10** Rising Damp **6.35** Heidi **8.25** Heartbeat **10.30** FILM: Calamity Jane (1953) (U) **11.35** FYI Daily **11.40** FILM: Calamity Jane (1953) (U) **12.40** A Touch of Frost **2.55** Wycliffe **4.05** FILM: That's Carry On (1978) (PG) Compilation from the long-running series. **5.10** FYI Daily **5.15** FILM: That's Carry On (1978) (PG) Concluded. **5.55** Margery and Gladys **8.00** Royal Stories **9.00** Million Dollar Princesses **10.05** FILM: The Young Victoria (2009) (PG) Historical drama, starring Emily Blunt. **11.05** FYI Daily **11.10** FILM: The Young Victoria (2009) (PG) Concluded. **12.10** Wire in the Blood **3.00** May the Best House Win **4.40** Rising Damp **5.35** ITV3 Nightscreen

BBC4 SKY: 116 FV: 9

1.00 Olympics 2016. Volleyball and handball coverage on day 16. **4.00** Olympics 2016. Rhythmic gymnastics, volleyball and handball action. **7.00** Olympics 2016. The men's basketball final on the 16th day in Rio. **10.00** Secret Voices of Hollywood **11.30** Entertaining the Troops **12.30** Fifties British War Films: Days of Glory **1.30** Dancing in the Blitz: How Second World War Made British Ballet **2.30** Secret Voices of Hollywood **4.00** Close

E4 SKY: 136 FV: 28

6.00 The Mindy Project **6.40** Baby Daddy **7.30** How I Met Your Mother **8.30** Made in Chelsea: South of France **9.30** Hollyoaks **12.00** Coach Trip: Road to Ibiza **2.30** FILM: Turner & Hooch (1989) (PG) Family canine comedy, starring Tom Hanks. **4.35** The Goldbergs **6.30** The Big Bang Theory **10.00** Tattoo Fixers on Holiday **11.00** Gogglebox **12.40** Rude Tube: Ultimate Champions **1.45** Containment **2.40** Gogglebox **3.20** Hollyoaks

MORE4 SKY: 138 FV: 14

8.55 Kirstie's Handmade Treasures **9.20** Jamie's 15 Minute Meals **9.50** Selling Houses with Amanda Lamb **10.50** Phil Spencer's Stately Homes **11.55** Come Dine with Me **2.40** Four in a Bed **5.15** Come Dine with Me **8.00** Amazing Spaces Shed of the Year **9.00** Father Ted **10.05** That's So Last Century **11.15** 8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown **12.20** 24 Hours in A&E **1.20** That's So Last Century **2.30** 8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown **3.25** Hugh's 3 Good Things: Best Bites **3.35** Close

FILM4 SKY: 315 FV: 15

11.00 Lifeboat (1944) (PG) Alfred Hitchcock's Second World War drama, starring Tallulah Bankhead. **1.00** Marmaduke (2010) (U) Comedy, starring Lee Pace. **2.45** The Spy Next Door (2010) (PG) Comedy, starring Jackie Chan. **4.35** Big (1988) (12) Comedy, starring Tom Hanks. **6.40** A Good Year (2006) (12) Comedy drama, starring Russell Crowe. **9.00** 3:10 to Yuma (2007) (15) A rancher escorts a notorious outlaw on a dangerous journey to a station where a train will take the prisoner to jail. Western remake, starring Russell Crowe and Christian Bale. **11.25** The Paperboy (2012) (15) A reporter returns to his home town, and enlists his younger brother's help in proving a man on death row is innocent. Drama, starring Matthew McConaughey and Zac Efron. **1.35** Stroszek (1977) (15) **3.50** Close

DAVE SKY: 111 FV: 12

7.10 Trawlermen **8.00** Top Gear **10.00** The Best of Top Gear **11.00** Red Bull Soapbox Race **12.00** Motorway Cops **2.00** American Pickers **5.00** Top Gear **6.00** Top Gear Bolivia Special **7.40** Top Gear **9.00** Have I Got a Bit More News for You **10.00** Suits **11.00** Parks and Recreation **12.00** Have I Got a Bit More News for You **1.00** Would I Lie to You? **1.40** Mock the Week **2.20** QI **2.50** Suits **3.40** Rocket City Rednecks **4.00** Close

DRAMA SKY: 158 FV: 20

7.10 Lovejoy **8.00** The Bill **12.00** Catherine Cookson's The Wingless Bird **3.00** Brush Strokes **5.00** Porridge **7.00** Murdoch Mysteries **8.00** The Doctor Blake Mysteries **9.00** Silent Witness **11.25** Catherine Cookson's The Wingless Bird **2.25** Lovejoy **3.20** Birds of a Feather **4.00** Close

SKY1 SKY: 106

6.00 Hour of Power **7.00** Monkey Life **9.00** Futurama **11.00** WWE: Raw **12.00** Football's Funniest Moments **1.00** Don't Tell the Bride **2.00** Four Weddings **3.00** Battle of the Brides **4.00** Modern Family **6.00** The Simpsons **8.00** The Last Ship **9.00** Zoo **10.00** Ross Kemp: Extreme World **11.00** Stop, Search, Seize **12.00** The Force: Manchester **1.00** Air Ambulance ER **2.00** Arrow **3.00** Mount Pleasant **4.00** Border Security: Canada's Front Line **5.00** Road Wars

SKY ATLANTIC SKY: 108

6.00 The Guest Wing **7.00** Networks of Power with Sir Christopher Meyer **8.00** The West Wing **1.00** David Attenborough's Conquest of the Skies **2.00** Without a Trace **6.00** Cold Case **9.00** Band of Brothers **11.45** Ray Donovan **12.55** The Sopranos **2.00** FILM: Back on Board: Greg Louganis (2014) **3.45** Veep

W SKY: 109

6.05 Bondi Rescue **7.30** EastEnders **10.00** My Dream Home **2.00** Doctor Who **6.00** Outnumbered **8.00** Beauty and the Beast **9.00** Sherlock **11.00** Who Do You Think You Are? USA **12.00** Being Human USA **1.55** Who Do You Think You Are? USA **3.00** Home Shopping

GOLD SKY: 110

7.10 Harry Hill's TV Burp **7.30** Jeeves and Wooster **8.40** Only Fools and Horses **9.20** FILM: Fierce Creatures (1997) (12) Comedy, starring John Cleese. **11.10** FILM: Nuns on the Run (1990) (15) **1.05** Monty Python's Best Bits (Mostly) **2.30** jam **3.00** That Mitchell and Webb Look **3.30** jam **4.00** Close

SKY SPORTS 1 SKY: 401

6.00 Premier League Highlights **9.00** The Sunday Supplement **10.30** Goals on Sunday **12.30** Live Nissan Super Sunday. Sunderland v Middlesbrough (kick-off 1.30pm). **3.30** Live Nissan Super Sunday. West Ham United v Bournemouth (kick-off 4.00pm). **7.00** Live La Liga Football. Real Sociedad v Real Madrid (kick-off 7.15pm). **9.00** Live La Liga Football. Atletico Madrid v Alaves (kick-off 9.15pm). **11.15** Goals on Sunday **12.15** Premier League Highlights **1.15** The Sunday Supplement **2.45** Premier League Highlights **3.45** Football Gold **4.00** Premier League Highlights

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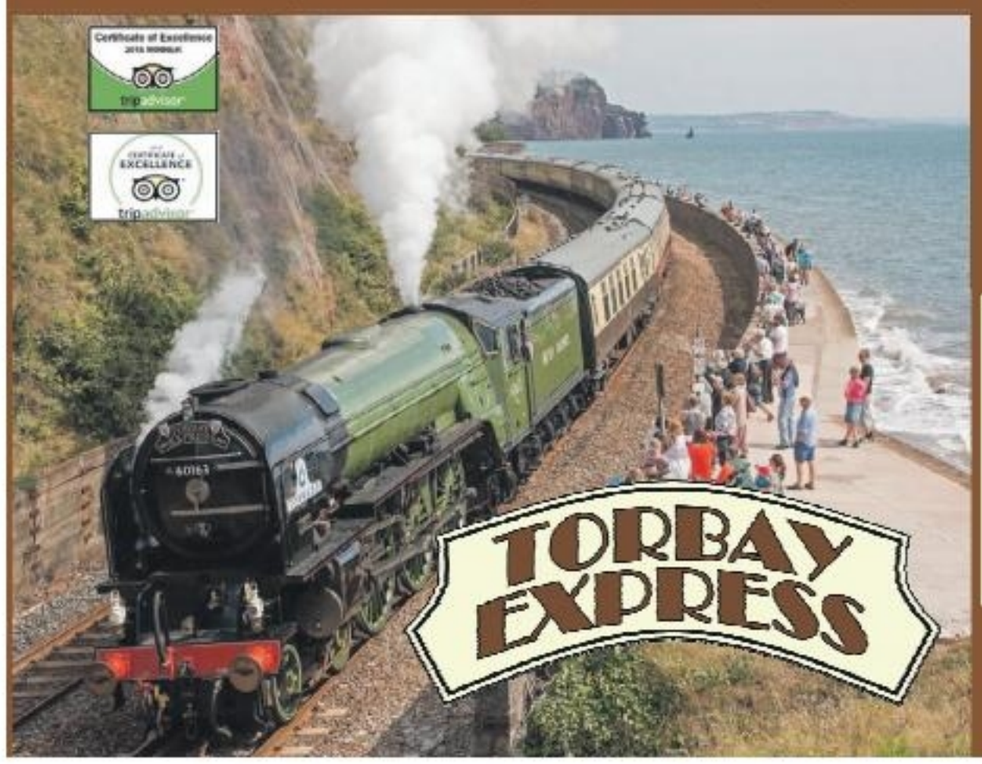

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This property showcased courtesy of Davis Tate Wantage

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A beautifully restored, detached Grade II Listed cottage, formerly the village Smithy, has gone on the market in Childrey.

Full of character, Charles Cottage has a charming atmosphere with a unique layout reflecting its 500-year-old history.

It boasts four/five bedrooms, two bathrooms, sitting room, dining room, study, kitchen/breakfast room, utility room, an cloakroom.

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• *Continues on page 46*

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Cowley £400,000

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PROPERTY WEEKLY

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Five-bedroom cottage with charming feel

• *From front page*

The current owners have sensitively restored the property with great care taken to use authentic materials. There are polished oak floorboards, mullioned windows, exposed timbers and open fires, creating a cosy and relaxing atmosphere.

From the Oak front door, flagstone steps lead to the lobby with curved lime plastered walls and into the double aspect kitchen/breakfast room with exposed beams.

There is a cellar with limited head height, accessed by wooden steps, with a brick floor and an automatic pump to ensure it stays dry.

The dining room has the old front door to the Blacksmith's house, and the family room is of good size.

The charming sitting room has a polished brick floor, inglenook fireplace, exposed beams and window to front.

Upstairs there are four/five bedrooms, one being used as a dressing room, all with exposed beams and timbers and some with fireplaces.

There are two well-appointed bathrooms, one with a roll-top bath and one en-suite to the master bedroom.

From the kitchen/breakfast room, a door leads to the Wheelwright's workshop and barn. This could make a dramatic family room or 'medieval-style' kitchen/dining room, subject to the usual consents.

Charles Cottage is thought to be over 500 years old. It was originally a 'hall house', a simple one-room building with a single hearth in the middle of the floor for cooking and warmth.

King Charles I was rumoured to have stayed the night in the Blacksmith's house when he had his horse shod there on the way to Wantage in 1644.

For more details, contact Davis Tate Wantage on 01235 772670 or email phil.may@davistate.com.

What proportion of Oxford properties have three or more bedrooms?

Bill Cooper, author of The Oxford Property Blog:

An orthodox way of classifying property in the UK is to look at the number of bedrooms rather than its size in square metres.

It seems that both homeowners and tenants are happy to pay for more space. And, typically, the more bedrooms a house or apartment has, the bigger it is likely to be, because typically properties with more bedrooms tend to have larger or more reception (living) rooms.

In today's Oxford property market, the Oxford homeowners and Oxford landlords I talk to are always asking me which attributes are likely to make their property comparatively more attractive and which ones may detract from the price.

Over time, buyers' and tenants' wants and needs have changed. In Oxford, location is still the number one factor affecting property value, and in the best neighbourhoods or those with proximity to a great school or major place of work, can command a price 40 to 50 per cent higher than a similar house in an 'average' area.

However, after location, the next characteristic that has the most significant influence on the desirability, and thus price, of property is the number of bedrooms and the type (i.e. detached/semi/terraced/flat).

In previous articles, I have analysed the Oxford housing stock into bedrooms and type of property, but never before now have I cross-referenced type against bedrooms.

These figures for the Oxford City Council area make fascinating reading. It shows 76.2 per cent of properties in the area have three or more bedrooms.

I was genuinely surprised at the low numbers of one and two bed properties, especially 2 bed semi detached houses, as tenants like smaller one and two bed properties in Oxford. You see, it might interest the homeowners and landlords of Oxford, that there has been a change in the numbers of properties on the market and the split in bedrooms over the last 12 months.

For several years Oxford buy-to-let investors have been pretty much the only buyers at the lower end of the market.

Some Oxford landlords believe their window of opportunity has started to close with the new tax regime for landlords, whilst it already appears to be opening wider for first-time buyers.

This is great news for first time buyers who can scrape together the sizable deposit needed.

One final note for Oxford landlords - all is not lost - you can still pick up bargains if you are prepared to buy a property in need of work, you just need to be increasingly savvy.

One source of such information with articles like this is the Oxford Property Blog: oxfordpropertyblog.co.uk.

Highgate show home launched in Bicester

You can now live in your own show home at Heyford Park in Bicester as Dorchester Living brings to market its beautiful Highgate show home.

Situated opposite the village green, the Highgate is a thoughtfully designed four-bedroom detached house spread over three storeys. It comes fully furnished with a landscape garden and off-street parking, and boasts undisturbed views over the village green to the front of the property.

The ground floor offers owners a study and an open-plan family room, dining area and kitchen, with bi-folding doors leading to the rear garden.

The unique design of this property means the living room is on the first floor along with two bedrooms and a bathroom.

The second floor has a master bedroom with en-suite and fitted wardrobes, along with a fourth bedroom, which could be used as a guest room.

This property is priced at £540,000.

Mr and Mrs Rose purchased a Highgate house type at Heyford Park in April. Mrs Rose, said: "We were drawn to Heyford Park because of the high specification of the homes.

"We were attracted to its high ceilings and open plan living space, especially the ground floor living areas and kitchen, which opens out on to the garden – a great space for entertaining family and friends."

For further information about the Highgate show home, contact the marketing suite on 01869 238238 or visit the website: heyfordpark.co.uk.

Cheaper mortgages 'great news for property market'

A number of factors - including cheaper mortgages, a rise in first-time buyers and more choice - have combined to create a positive outlook for the property market.

The Bank of England's recent decision to lower the base rate to 0.25 per cent has encouraged eight of the UK's 10 largest mortgage lenders to lower their standard variable rates, while figures from the Council of Mortgage Lenders show 68,200 loans were taken out by first-time buyers in June, an increase of 26 per cent on May and eight per cent on June 2015.

A rise in supply is also helping buyers, with Rightmove reporting the average estate agents had 61 properties for sale on its books in July, up from 60 in June and 59 in May.

Kevin Shaw, national sales director at property specialist Leaders, says there has been a notable uplift in the property market in recent weeks, with many buyers and sellers enjoying a renewed sense of confidence following the result of the EU referendum.

He said: "A reduction in mortgage rates and more loans for first-time buyers is great news that will help to get Britain moving.

"It is clear that people are using the summer as an opportunity to make their next move.

"With Rightmove figures showing a rise in available stock and our own statistics revealing an increase in the number of new properties brought to the market, buyers are benefiting from more choice.

"While the precise impact of Brexit is still unknown, it has not yet had an effect.

"After all, people still need to take their next step, find a home for their family or buy for the first time, so we expect activity to remain strong."

For information and advice on selling or buying a home, contact your local Leaders branch or visit leaders.co.uk.

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Abingdon £1,600 pcm

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Abingdon

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£1,495 pcm

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Unfurnished. Available Mid September. EPC RATING: G

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Abingdon £1,175 pcm

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ENTERTAINMENT & LISTINGS

The Wirebirds to fly high

A MIXTURE of original songs and cover versions will be heard when The Wirebirds perform at The Nag's Head in Abingdon, on Friday, August 26.

By **James Richings**

Made up of Allan Stroud (guitar and vocals), Jay Myrdal (harmonica and vocals), Dave Smith (bass) and Darren Hopkins (drums and backing vocals), the foursome, who hail from Stanford in the Vale, are no strangers to performing all over the county.

• *The Wirebirds, from left, Al Stroud, Dave Smith, Jay Myrdal and Darren Hopkins*

Next Friday's gig will be the fifth time they have performed at the Abingdon Bridge pub, with the band also due to perform there again in December.

And despite not releasing any of their self-penned tracks so far, bassist Dave Smith hopes the Abingdon crowd will appreciate their original tunes, as well as their covers of tracks from a number of blues/rock musicians.

"The band is greatly influenced by the early blues of the rural south in America, as well as the British blues boom of the 1960s," Dave told the Guardian.

"You'll hear echoes of Jimi Hendrix, Rory Gallagher and Stevie Ray Vaughan in Al's guitar playing, while Jay draws inspiration from the likes of Little Walter and Sonny Boy Williamson.

"We're all devotees of the blues in its many forms, but also listen to a wide range of other music."

"And, on the night, you'll hear a blend of classic blues and a few original songs, all played in the distinctive Wirebirds style.

"Expect some emotionally charged guitar from Al, inspired blues harp from Jay, and a plenty of strong grooves driving the band along from Darren and Dave."

Three of the band members originate from other parts of the world - guitarist Allan and drummer Darren are from the South Atlantic island of St Helena and harmonica player Jay is from Montana in the United States - while the fourth band-mate Dave, who lives in Oxford, spent a large part of his life in Finland.

But despite their different backgrounds, the four friends have developed a huge bond between them, which really shows when they perform.

So it is no surprise that the band is booked solid with gigs all over the south of country until the end of the year.

"Our dream would be to tour with a group of blues greats, as we would learn so much from them," Dave said.

"And I think it's absolutely vital that people should continue to watch live music.

"I believe that the loss of local venues that give both bands and audiences a chance to experience the joys of real music played live would be a tragedy."

The free gig at the pub will start at 9.45pm.

Karaoke stars night

LIVE MUSIC: A 'Stars in Their Minds' free karaoke night will take place at the Magoo's Bar in Henley next Thursday, August 25, from 10pm to 1am.

It will see music fans arrive at the Hart Street venue to sing along to their favourite tunes from artists such as Frank Sinatra and Elvis Presley.

Top comedian

COMEDY: One of the UK's most successful comedians Michael McIntyre will be performing at Chipping Norton Theatre on Tuesday, August 23 and Wednesday, August 24.

The 40-year-old, who was also a judge on 'Britain's Got Talent' in 2011, visits the Spring Street venue for a 'work in progress' tour.

Tickets cost £21.50 and both gigs start at 7.45pm.

Streak-ing in

LIVE MUSIC: Rock'n'roll covers band Blue Streak will perform a free gig at Woodstock Social Club on Saturday, August 20, starting at 9pm.

The four-piece group from Bicester will showcase some of the genre's most popular tunes from the 1950s and 1960s.

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ENTERTAINMENT & LISTINGS

Covers band aims to inspire others

TUNES from Adele to Iron Maiden will echo around The Bell pub in Bicester when covers band Free State Revolution pay a visit on Saturday, August 20.

By **James Richings**

Made up of Dan Banfield on rhythm guitar and vocals, Kris Willingham on lead guitar, bassist Andrew Pancheri and drummer Andreas Kremheller, the band is no stranger to performing in Oxfordshire and beyond, with the group regularly gigging in numerous counties.

And despite being a part-time band, with the lead singer admitting that the four of them have 'sensible jobs to pay for the bills', he hopes that he along with Kris, Andrew and Andreas will be able to put a smile of their audience's faces with their covers.

"To be honest with you, the audience giving you that positive reaction is the reason why we do it," Dan told the Guardian.

"We have all grown up loving music but when you are young, you have dreams of writing and performing in big venues.

"Unfortunately, those dreams all slipped away as we all got older settled down and had children.

"But performing in the venues we do, sometimes they are small, sometimes they are large, we always try and look out for people dancing, singing and just generally enjoying themselves which gives us all a real buzz when we perform."

After falling in love with music when he was a child, Dan revealed to the Guardian it was musicians and bands such as Jimi Hendrix, Thin Lizzy, The Kinks and The Who that first gave him that passion for music, after his parents would play their tunes on the radio on long car journeys.

Then Dan's wish to become a musician came true in 2012, when he was introduced to his current bandmates via an online advert guitarist Kris put out.

Since then, the four friends have become familiar faces in pubs, clubs and bars across Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire and Northamptonshire.

And with their rock covers of popular songs attracting big audiences, Dan hopes he, along with his band-mates, can inspire a whole new generation of cover bands.

"In a world where stars and music is manufactured with no talent or meaning, to go and see live bands - especially covers bands - is hugely important,' Dan said.

"There was a time when music was written to send a message to the listener, to empathise, sympathise and reach out to people.

"Nowadays it's all about money."

The free gig by the Leighton Buzzard-based band at the pub in Bicester's Sheep Street will start at 9.30pm.

• *Dan Banfield in voice (picture courtesy of facebook.com/freestaterevolution)*

Comedy night

COMEDY: Four comedians will be arriving at the Glee Club in Oxford on Saturday, August 20.

Tim Clark, Ben Norris, Ivo Graham and another comic who has yet to be confirmed visit the Hythe Bridge Street venue to share their stores and witty gags.

The show is suitable for over-18s. Doors open at 7.15pm.

Bruiser perform

LIVE MUSIC: Brackley-based covers band Bruiser will be performing at the The Cricketers Arms in Cowley on Saturday, August 20.

The four-piece group visit the Temple Road pub to showcase tunes from the likes of Led Zeppelin, AC/DC, Deep Purple, Guns'n'Roses and Black Sabbath.

The free gig starts at 9pm.

Trumbo screening

FILM SCREENING: Last year's Oscar-nominated movie 'Trumbo', will be screened at The Mill Arts Centre in Banbury on Tuesday, August 30.

Starring Bryan Cranston, Helen Mirren and Diane Lane, the film looks at the life of screenwriter Dalton Trumbo. Tickets cost £6 and it starts at 7.30pm.

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ENTERTAINMENT & LISTINGS

Arts venue reveals new season line-up

THE Cornerstone Arts Centre in Didcot has revealed its new programme for the autumn and winter season.

By **James Richings**

From September, the Station Road venue will be playing host to plays, musicals, musicians and comedians, among others.

Kicking off the line-up will be the popular band Danny and the Champions of the World on Sunday, September 11. Fronted by Danny Wilson, the group will perform tracks from their six studio albums.

Two days later on Tuesday, September 13, the Station Road theatre will hold its monthly open mic night when local singers, musicians, poets, actors and comedians and show off their skills in front of a packed crowd.

Other open mic night are scheduled for October 11, November 8 and December 13.

Comedian Seann Walsh is due on Thursday, September 29.

The following month will see British-Iranian comic Omid Djalili perform on Wednesday, October 5, and Thursday, October 6, as part of his 'Schmuck for a Night' UK tour. The same month will see 'The Power of Love – The Music of Celine Dion' visit the venue on Thursday, October 20.

Starring Eloise Jane Gray as the Canadian singer, she will perform many of the 48-year-old star's hits such as 'My Heart Will Go On' and 'The Power of Love'.

The Cornerstone will also be hosting a number of family-fun events aimed at children, with one of them, 'Don't Dribble on the Dragon', arriving in Didcot on Sunday, October 23.

Based on the book written by Steven Lee, it tells the story of brothers Jack and Tom who have a huge falling out.

So it's up to a magical dragon to help the two siblings bury the hatchet.

The following month will see one of Cornerstone's largest events take place from Friday, November 25, to Sunday, November 27, with the staginf of Didcot Food Festival.

For three days, numerous chefs and television personalities will come to Didcot to share off their sweet and savory treats.

For more information about all of these events, visit www.cornerstone-arts.org.

• *Seann Walsh will be in Didcot on Thursday, September 29.*

Cornerstone autumn and winter shows

SEPTEMBER
Sunday, September 11
Danny and the Champions of the World
Tuesday, September 13
Open Mic Night
Friday, September 16
Rajasthan Heritage Brass Band
Saturday, September 17
John Hegley: I am a Potato (children's show)
Saturday, September 17
John Hegley: Peace, Love and Potatoes
Saturday, September 24
Home Service
Thursday, September 29
Seann Walsh
Friday, September 30
Jo Caulfield – The Customer is Always Wrong

OCTOBER
Saturday, October 1
Spanish Night
Sunday, October 2
Albee Vector Sound Collector
Wednesday, October 5 – Thursday, October 6
Omid Djalili: Shmuck for a Night
Friday, October 7
Ronnie Scott's All Stars Present The Ronnie Scott's Story
Saturday, October 8
Hal Cruttenden: Straight Outta Cruttenden
Saturday, October 15
Wrecking Ball
Sunday, October 16
Scary Little Girls: Wicked Teaser
Wednesday, October 19
Operation Crucible
Thursday, October 20
The Power of Love – the music of Celine Dion
Friday, October 21
Mark Thomas – The Red Shed
Saturday, October 22
Jess and Joe Forever
Sunday, October 23
Don't Dribble on the Dragon
Tuesday, October 25
The Boy Who Bit Picasso
Thursday, October 27
The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde
Saturday, October 29 – Sunday, October 30
Something Wicked: All Hallows Walks
Saturday, October 29
Musicals from Broadway to Hollywood

NOVEMBER
Wednesday, November 2
The Collector
Thursday, November 3
Ralph McTell
Sunday, November 6
Toys
Friday, November 11
Harrogate
Saturday, November 12
St Giles Orchestra
Sunday, November 13
Alfie White: Space Explorer
Wednesday, November 16 – Thursday, November 17
Didcot Girls School Dance Showcase
Friday, November 18
Business and Community Awards
Saturday, November 19
Stephen K. Amos
Sunday, November 20
Jack and the Beans Talk
Friday, November 25 – Sunday, November 27
Didcot Food Festival

DECEMBER
Friday, December 2
Mark Thompson: The Show at the End of the Universe
Saturday, December 3
From Ibiza to the Norfolk Broads
Sunday, December 4
Abingdon Concert Band presents The Snowman
Tuesday, December 6 – Saturday, December 24
Emily Brown and the Thing
Sunday, December 11
Comedy Club 4 Kids – Christmas Cracker
Wednesday, December 14
A Christmas Carol
Monday, December 19
Living Spit presents A Christmas Carol

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ENTERTAINMENT & LISTINGS

Hunt down The Fox for fine food

"IF more of us valued food and cheer and song above hoarded gold, it would be a merrier world" - reading the familiar wise words of The Hobbit author JRR Tolkien on the menu of The Fox Inn at Boars Hill put me in good spirits.

But what came next was even better - pan-fried fillets of sea bass, crab with chorizo and spring onion risotto, sautéed bak choy, Thai coconut curry sauce, mango salsa, coriander and chilli.

I hadn't been hugely hungry as my plus-one drove us out of Oxford and past the exclusive gated mansions of Foxcombe Road to the classic English pub. But the tide turned as I read the menu and list of specials - and that's always a good sign.

After a tumultuous year of changeovers at The Fox Inn, MLC Pubs Ltd has taken over with style and, if the food and wine is anything to go by, is here to stay.

The small company now has five pubs since it launched in 2008. Its latest, which launched in March, is the one I trialled two Fridays ago.

The elegant-come-country-chic décor sets the tone well and covered outdoor decking is a nice option for the hardy – or for those fleeting days of summer sun.

REVIEW: ★★★★½

By Katriona Ormiston

My plus-one was very impressed with the A3-sized wine list, and we were both pleased to spot a favoured New Zealand Sauvignon Blanc from Spy Valley, a family firm whose vineyards we visited six months ago. It was suitably named staff favourite.

But with our more adventurous hats on, we opted for an Italian white instead and didn't regret it - a Gavi Docg, Tuffolo.

Pan-seared scallops with roast butternut squash and all the trimmings got things off to a great start. Plus-one agreed.

And I don't think I need to say much more of my main described above, other than it was definitely the best meal I have had out from my memory of feasts this year. What I thought was a brave combination on paper was pulled off beautifully.

I had no food envy, despite the look of plus-one's pan-seared fillet of halibut, garlic-crushed new potatoes, cauliflower purée, sautéed fennel, red pepper and mange tout with white wine, chorizo and sundried tomato velouté.

The Fox Inn has undergone an unmistakable upgrade since I last visited some years ago when plus-one was just someone on the other side of the table.

And it has obviously also come a long way from the establishment it was in 1985, when darts, pool, and dominoes were the order of the day alongside scampi and chips for £2.

There are fewer games on offer now so the emphasis is on good company, good wine, good food and good service.

The Fox has been a pub for more than 100 years, but was also apparently a tea room a long time ago, in which ladies would gather for tea and cake in the front rooms, leaving gentlemen to their secret pints of beer in the back.

Cake is still an option, though, and if you can manage it, I wouldn't turn down dessert.

Hat's off to the chef.

• The Fox Inn

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ENTERTAINMENT & LISTINGS

If you have a forthcoming event and wish to advertise it in one or more of Taylor Newspapers titles including this one please call 01235 511700 where we will be pleased to help.
For press releases about forthcoming events please email events@taylornewspapers.co.uk - (images welcome) - specifying the area that the event is taking place in and we will do our best to promote it for you, space permitting, in one or more of our newspapers.

Fri, Aug 19, 7pm
O2 Academy, Oxford
DEATH OF THE MAIDEN

Sat, Aug 20, 2pm
The Mill Arts Centre, Banbury
PLUNDERED
Whilst searching for hidden treasure, Captain Blackbeard, a famously selfish pirate, has left a once beautiful tropical island littered with rubbish and its inhabitants struggling to survive. It's up to Maggie and Roy to save it. The trouble is... they're REALLY not friends. Teleported from their school trip at the Maritime Museum into the centre of a swashbuckling adventure in the Amazon, can they learn to work together, win the race to find the legendary treasure - and restore the place to its natural glory?

Tuesday, August 23, 2pm
Drayton Village Hall
INDOOR BOWLS TASTER SESSION
Come and try out a possible new hobby, gentle exercise, a new skill, and friendly guidance with a great club (oh, tea & bikkies too!).

Tue, Aug 30, 7.30pm
The Mill Arts Centre, Banbury
TRUMBO
In 1947, Dalton Trumbo (Bryan Cranston of Breaking Bad fame) was Hollywood's top screenwriter until he and other artists were jailed and blacklisted for their political beliefs.
This star-studded film recounts how Dalton used scripts and wit to win two Academy Awards and expose the absurdity and injustice of the blacklist, which entangled celebrities including gossip columnist Hedda Hopper (Helen Mirren), John Wayne and Kirk Douglas.

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Joining Hanisha Sethi and Felicity Walker as news guests:
Thursday 18th Aug: Peter Hill talks countryside flowers
Friday 19th Aug: Edmund Jones discusses this years Oxford Proms

Don't miss our talk shows, On **Thursday Beverley Sunderland** talks business, on **Friday Emma-Jane** talks health and fitness, on **Monday** we air a new show called Sport in Spotlight, on **Tuesday Daisy Smith** talks current affairs, and on **Wednesday, Eve Ahmed** talks community.

Tue, Aug 30 – Sat, Aug 3
New Theatre, Oxford
THE GLENN MILLER STORY
It's been seventy years since Glenn Miller vanished over the English Channel as he flew to Paris to entertain the troops during the Second World War. Did he crash? Was he shot down? Will the mystery ever be solved?
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Tommy's legendary career boasts countless hit singles, Hollywood movies and award-winning stage musicals such as Half a Sixpence,

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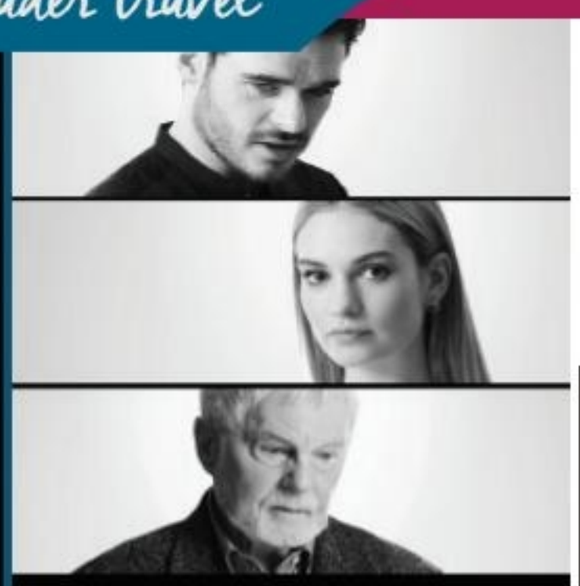

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ENTERTAINMENT & LISTINGS

Hans Andersen and Singin' in the Rain at the London Palladium, where he was recently honoured with a prestigious plaque celebrating the fact that he remains the theatre's most successful ever star.

Wed, Aug 31, 8pm
Cornerstone Arts Centre, Didcot
HIGH RISE
Starring Tom Hiddleston and Jeremy Irons. Life for residents of a tower block begins to run out of control in an adaptation of JG Ballard's novel.

Thu, Sept 1, 7.15pm
Unicorn Theatre, Abingdon
NINEBARROW
Ninebarroware a multi-award-winning folk duo, who are impressing audiences across the country with their innovative and captivating take on the folk tradition.
Described by Mike Harding as sounding 'damn fine' and by Seth Lakeman as 'a fantastic duo', Jon Whitley and Jay LaBouchardiere combine breath taking vocal harmonies and melodies, delivering original songs that are inspired and rooted in the landscape and history of the British Isles.
Most recently, Ninebarrow were announced winners of Fatea Magazine's 'Debut Album of the Year' 2014'.

Tue, Sept 6 – Sat, Sept 10
New Theatre, Oxford
THE SOUND OF MUSIC
One of the greatest musicals of all time returns to the stage in a magnificent new production to enchant the young and the young at heart. This wonderfully lavish new staging tells the true story of the world-famous von Trapp singing family, from their romantic beginnings and search for happiness, to their thrilling escape to freedom at the start of WWII.
Lucy O'Byrne, fresh from her success on BBC One's The Voice, plays the role of Maria. She became the competition's runner up in 2015, impressing the nation and chart topper will.i.am with her stunning vocal range. Award winning TV and stage leading-man Andrew Lancel plays the dashing Captain von Trapp. Lancel, who is best known to TV audiences for his portrayal of villainous businessman Frank Foster in Coronation Street and for the role of DI Neil Manson in The Bill, drew critical acclaim in the title role of the West End production Epstein - The Man Who Made the Beatles.

Thu, Sept 8 – Fri, Sept 9
Oxford Playhouse, Oxford
THE EULOGY OF TOBY PEACH
I was born on the 18th December 1988. I dressed up as a bandicoot once. I was diagnosed with cancer 3,322,000 minutes ago...
Toby has come to deliver his Eulogy. Join him as he enters the (not so) exclusive Cancer Club; sample chemotherapy cocktails, select the perfect funeral playlist and marvel at Willy Wonka's life-saving stem cell machine.
From diagnosis to remission, relapse and treatment; experience a young man's journey with cancer in this honest, fascinating and inspiring exploration of modern science and the human body.
A "heartfelt and buoyant" (???? Stage) discovery of self-mortality and celebration of life!

Mon, Sept 12, 7.30pm
Oxford Playhouse, Oxford
UNTIL YOU HEAR THAT BELL
Told through spoken word and within timed boxing rounds, Until You Hear That Bell is a story about amateur boxing and family. It's about doing something for ten years, and slowly getting good at it.
Birthed from the 2010 Roundhouse poetry collective, Sean has won Literary Death Match twice, performed on Channel 4's Random Acts and co-hosts the monthly poetry night, BoxediN.

Tue, Sept 13, 7.30p
Oxford Playhouse, Oxford
EQUATIONS FOR A MOVING BODY
Equations for a Moving Body is a story about endurance – when our brains tell our bodies to stop – and the psychology of carrying on. It is a story about preparing mind and body and the people who share that journey with us. What carries us to the finish line? What's left at the end of 141 miles of swimming, cycling and running?
Inspired by her own experience in triathlons and iron man events, with help from scientists and psychologists, and a documentary filmmaker, Hannah Nicklin will share what it means to attempt a great feat of endurance, and ask why we do these (frankly ridiculous) kinds of things.

Thu, Sept 15 – Fri, Sept 16
Oxford Playhouse, Oxford
THE HITCHHIKERS GUIDE TO THE FAMILY
Join UK all-star poetry slam champion Ben Norris as he battles the country's most notorious service stations in search of the man who became his father.

Saturday, September 17, 6.30pm
O2 Academy, Oxford
THE HUMMINGBIRDS
Heavily influenced by music from a simpler time, The Hummingbirds grew up on the streets of Merseyside are an ambitious five-piece that can rouse a crowd like no other.

Sunday, September 18, 7pm
O2 Academy, Oxford
SUNDARA KARMA
Having spent 2015 firmly establishing themselves as ones-to-catch on the live circuit and festival tents, Sundara Karma's captivatingly intense live shows have truly won the hearts of their crowd, building a dedicated cult fan base.

Tue, Sept 20 – Sat, Sept 24
Oxford Playhouse, Oxford
A TALE OF TWO CITIES
In an age when governments across the world face increasing unrest, Dickens' classic tale seems more relevant than ever.
With a bold new dramatic adaptation byMike Poulton (Wolf Hall, RSC) and rousing music by Oscar-winning Rachel Portman, this production is alive with passion and rebellion.
Considered by Dickens to be "the best story I have ever written".

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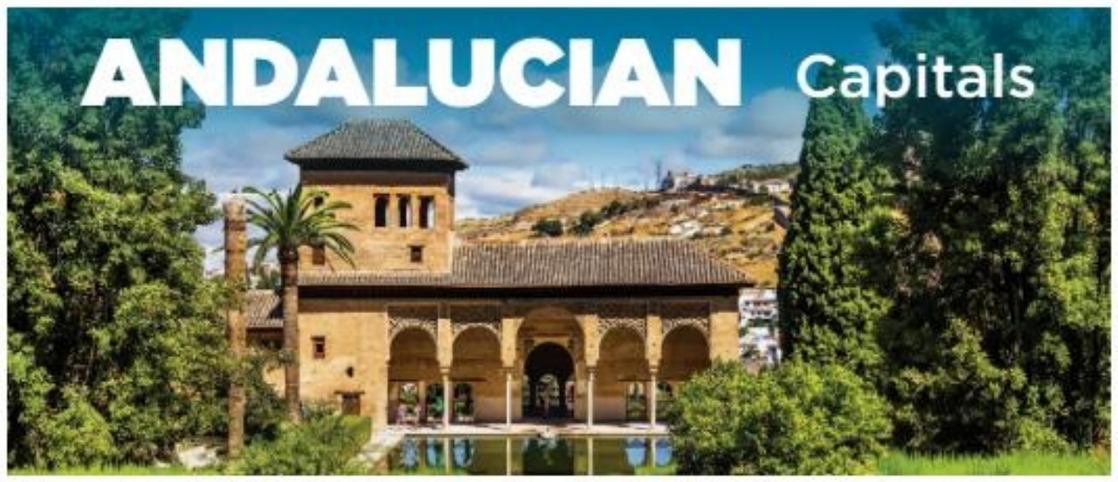
The advertised price is correct as of 25 May 2016 and is based upon departure from Gatwick airport on 24 September 2016.



Saturday departures, 23 & 30 July and 10 & 24 September 2016

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The advertised price is correct as of 19 May 2016 and is based upon departure from Gatwick airport on 24 September 2016.

Thursday departures, 1 September and 6 October 2016

Price Includes...

- ✔ Return flight from Gatwick airport to Barcelona†
- ✔ **7 nights half board at the 4 star Hotel Les Palmeres, Calella**
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- ✔ Free time at leisure in Calella and Barcelona
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The advertised price is correct as of 25 May 2016 and is based upon departure from Gatwick airport on 6 October 2016.

Selected Sunday departures, July - October 2016

Price Includes...

- ✔ Return flight from Gatwick airport to Dubrovnik†
- ✔ **7 nights half board at the 3 star Hotel Cavtat, Cavtat** (upgrade to the 4 star Grand Hotel Park in Dubrovnik at a supplement)
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Volvo V40 T2 Momentum Nav Plus

Want to be happy? Drive a Volvo

THE summer holidays are finally here for most of us – and I am sure everyone is frantically buzzing around and packing all their bags so they can jet off to that beach in the Bahamas.

Or, if that's not your kind of holiday, then maybe you are like me and are getting ready for a week of camping somewhere in Wales.

That's the thing about Wales - it is so full of wonderful things like the odd SAS soldier out for a quiet walk, or some rambling souls out for that brisk stroll in the morning sun.

Also, as it turns out, this year's summer holiday is just as important for me - because I finally get the chance to go away on holiday with one of my best friends who's over from Sweden.

So, if I may, I would like to introduce you to my friend the 'Volvo V40 T2 Momentum'.

By **Anthony Yates**

Power and Efficiency:

The V40 T2 I have on test is powered by a 1969cc petrol engine that has 122hp and 220Nm of torque at 3,500rpm.

Fuel economy also comes in at about 51.4mpg (combined) and CO_2 emissions of 127g/km, along with a top speed of around 118mph.

On the road:

A joy. I have said this before and I will say it again – driving around in a Volvo makes you feel happy. Yes, that's happy. The reason for this still boggles my mind, but all I do know is that when I'm behind the wheel of a Volvo I feel very happy indeed. On the road, the V40 also feels controlled and very well balanced into the corners and the ride feels firm but relaxing. And that's mainly down to Volvo doing a fantastic job of the V40's chassis.

Design & Technology

The V40 has some stunning looks, sharp lines and LED lighting which all add to the fresh appeal of the V40 - with many people already commenting on its looks as well as its styling.

The Volvo engineers have also put in a lot of effort to make the V40 more appealing to the younger buyer with its modern looks and technology including as standard a five-inch colour display screen, City Safety, LED headlights, two-zone climate control, speed limiter, hill-start assist, digital radio, Bluetooth hands-free system, 16-inch alloy wheels and 60/40 split-folding rear seats.

Safety:

Volvo has a long list of 'IntelliSafe' features on the V40 that are there to help prevent accidents and protect you in the event that one occurs. Plus additional features can be added such as adaptive cruise control, blind spot information, lane-Keeping aid and forward collision warning which all helps in keeping you safe on the road.

To sum up:

Just brilliant.
Price: From £20,255 (T2 Momentum) – not including fitted options.

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Official fuel consumption for the Volvo V40 T2 R-Design (manual) in MPG (l/100km): Urban 38.7 (7.3), Extra Urban 62.8 (4.5), Combined 51.4 (5.5). CO2 Emissions 127g/km. MPG figures are obtained from laboratory testing intended for comparisons between vehicles and may not reflect real driving results.
*Finance subject to status. 3.9% finance available on all V40 models at participating dealers registered by 30 September 2016. At the end of the agreement there are 3 options: (i) Renew: Part exchange the vehicle. (ii) Retain: Pay the Optional Final Payment to own the vehicle or (iii) Return the vehicle. Further charges may be made subject to the condition or mileage of the vehicle. Terms and conditions apply. 18s or over. Guarantee may be required. Volvo Car Credit RH1 1SR. The service offer is only applicable when purchasing on Volvo Advantage Personal Contract Purchase at participating dealers on vehicles ordered between 01/07/2016 and 30/09/2016. Services must be carried out at a Volvo Authorised Repairer. Retail offer only. Excludes fleet operators and business users. See volvocars.co.uk for full terms and conditions. We are a credit broker not a lender for this financial promotion. We can introduce you to a limited number of carefully selected finance providers and may receive a commission from them for the introduction. Registered Name: Johnsons Cars Ltd, Registered Office: Clive Road, Redditch B97 4BT. United Kingdom. Registration No. 3716766 VAT Registration No. GB927551606. Johnsons Cars Ltd is an Appointed Representative of ITC Compliance Limited which is Authorised and Regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

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Duration of Agreement	36 months
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Excess Mileage Charge	2.77p
Interest Rate p.a Fixed	5.68%

Honda Aspirations example for Civic 1.6 i-DTEC SE Plus 5dr [Nav] in Metallic Paint	
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Duration of Agreement	36 months
Option to Purchase Fee	£10.00
Annual Contracted Mileage	10,000
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Interest Rate p.a Fixed	5.68%

Honda Aspirations example CR-V DIESEL ESTATE 1.6 i-DTEC SE Plus 5dr 2WD	
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Deposit contributions available on new retail orders of selected models between 1st July and 30th September 2016 and registered and financed through Honda Finance on a (PCP) plan. Images are shown for illustration purposes only. Indemnities may be required. Finance subject to status to over 18s. At the end of the agreement there are 3 options: (i) Renew: Part-exchange the vehicle. (ii) Retain: Pay the Optional Final Payment to own the vehicle or (iii) Return the vehicle. Further charges may be made subject to the condition or mileage of the vehicle. Other finance offers are available but cannot be used in conjunction with this offer. Johnsons Cars, trading as Johnsons Honda, is a credit broker not a lender for this financial promotion. We can introduce you to a limited number of carefully selected finance providers and may receive a commission from them for the introduction. Images shown for illustration purposes only. Johnsons Cars Ltd (Firm Reference Number: 512460) are an Appointed Representative of ITC Compliance Ltd, and are authorised & regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (their registration number is 313486) and are permitted to advise on and arrange General Insurance contracts. Registered Name: Johnsons Cars Ltd, Registered Office: Johnsons Cars Ltd, Empire Court, Albert Street, Redditch, Worcestershire B97 4DA Registration No. 3716766 VAT Registration No. GB927551606.

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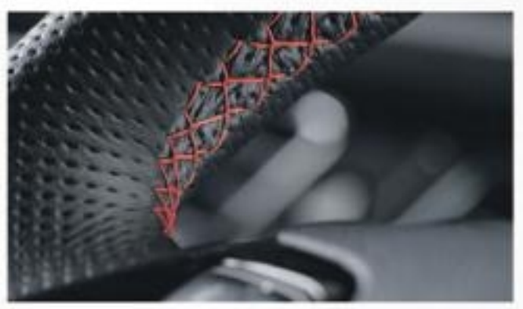

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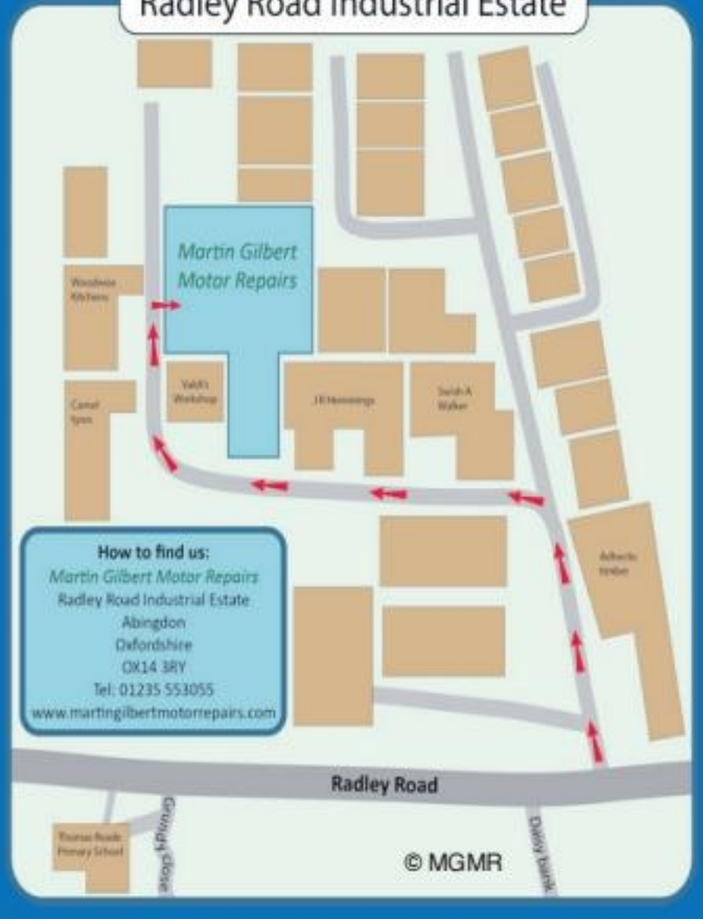

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Colour: Red
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Year: 2008
Miles: 52,000
MoT: 12 months
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SB33040 / 06.09.16

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Miles: 56,000
MoT: June 2017
Colour: Blue
Price: £2,500

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SB32991 / 06.09.16

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Year: 2007
Miles: 69,000
MOT: June 2017
Colour: Chiffon green
Price: £1,995

2007 Hatchback 5 door, manual, petrol, good condition. Tel: 01189 700610

SB32981 / 06.09.16

Rover 25 1.6

Year: 2004
Miles: 97,000
Colour: Metallic Gold
Price: £595

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SB32966 / 06.09.16

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Year: 2003
MOT: April 2017
Colour: Silver
Price: £295 ono

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SB32592 / 24.08.16

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Year: 2005
Miles: 48,893
MOT: May 2017
Colour: Metallic Blue
Price: £1695 ono

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SB32436 / 17.08.16

Skoda Citygo S

Year: 2014
Miles: 17,000
Colour: White
Price: £5,250

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01.09.16

Ford KA Zetec

Year: 2011
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MOT: 12 months
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SB32343 / 10.08.16

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Miles: 78,000
MOT: May 2017
Colour: Blue
Price: £1,550 ono

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SB32270 / 10.08.16

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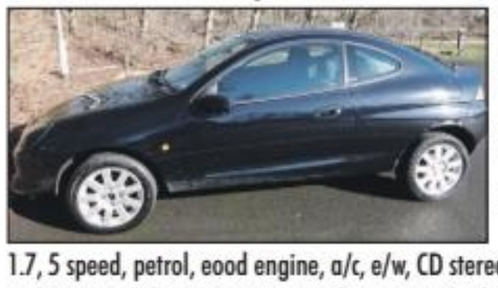

Year: 2000 / X
Miles: 105,000
MOT: Dec 2016
Colour: Black
Price: £300

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SB32323 / 10.08.16

Citroen DS4 1.6 e-HDI 115 DStyle

Year: 2014
Miles: 12,000 approx
MOT: March 2017
Colour: White
Price: £10,795 ono

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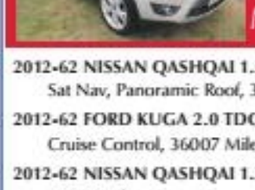

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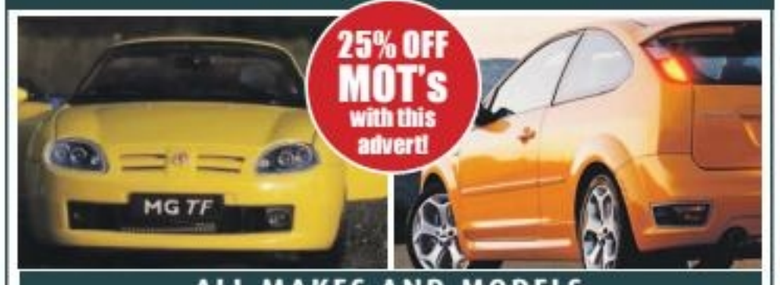

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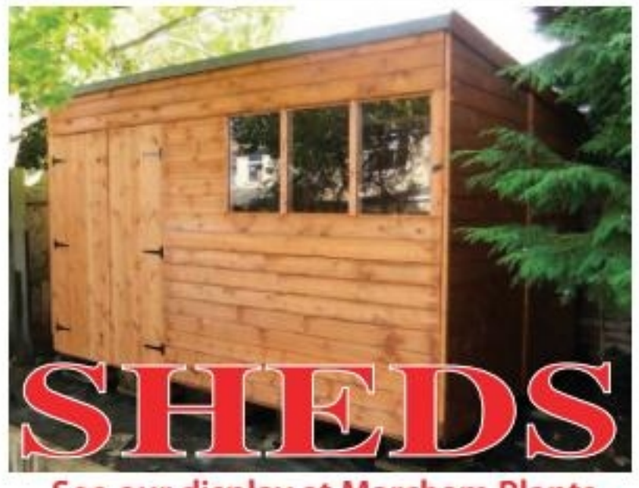

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HI I'm Pam, slim, blonde, green eyes, discreet, loves cuddles, seeking similar discreet tactile male for mutual friendship with benefits. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 378499**

EMILY, mature well educated lady, blonde and smart and broadminded seeks gent any age for no strings fun. ACA. **Tel: 0906 515 3023 Box 421375**

DEBBIE dark haired passionate classy, discreet female looking for professional intelligent male wanting mutual companionship. Can accommodate. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 380441**

LORRAINE, attractive solvent brunette, 34yrs, own house/car wltm gent any age, looks unimportant but must have GSOH. ACA. **Tel: 0906 515 3031 Box 422415**

I am a white caring lady, a young 55, seeking a caring black man for meals out, pubs, walking out, or just cosy nights in. **Text only Mailbox: 5518879**

ATTRACTIVE, professional, sporty Christian lady, early 70s, young at heart, many interests, WLTM honest, caring, professional preferably, very presentable male for outings, companionship and friendship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 423531**

KATIE 35yrs, slender well educated brunette seeks no strings mutual pleasure with gent 40+ Must be discreet, married or single. ACA. **Tel: 0906 515 3003 Box 419673**

PEGGY, 67, n/s, occasionally drink, likes the outdoor life, theatre, films, looking for somebody for a nice relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 423455**

KIM, 32yrs, attractive blonde lady seeks discreet gent for daytime distractions. ACA. **Tel: 0906 515 3007 Box 421657**

VALERIE, curvy young looking widow loves dancing, nights out, but would prefer cosy nights in with that special male. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 423491**

JANE, young 41, very broadminded seeks chap any age for discreet no strings fun, any age, no time wasters ACA. **Tel: No: 0906 515 3011 Box: 409715**

IRENE 55, sensual, very fair slim blonde, striking green eyes seeks young at heart dark male who has plenty of fun ideas. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 422861**

SUZANNE 50, tall blonde, works hard, plays harder, lots to offer the right male, seeks confident man who thinks he could handle her. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 422841**

SABINA, 35, outgoing attractive brunette, fit and carefree just looking for fun times without complications, maybe more later. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 423003**

TRACY 31, slim, attractive brunette, loyal and loving, loves water sports seeks kind, caring, fun loving man to love and look after. Looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 422817**

JILL, 53, blue eyed blonde, sporty, devoted footie fan, seeks tall, active guy who's not too shy to try something a bit different. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 422715**

ATTRACTIVE Suffolk mid forties female seeks male, 39-59, for coastal walks, dog walking and motor sports. Must have GSOH! **Text only Mailbox: 5482094**

ANNA 43, sensual blue-eyed blonde, slim and vivacious, loves to wine and dine seeks tall, dark male for good conversation, fun and romance. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 422713**

FELICITY, well educated, sophisticated lady, 38yrs, unhappily married and looking for a distraction with a man 30+, must be discreet. **Text Only Box: 4023417**

TRACY 44, outgoing bubbly brunette, likes to keep fit seeks outgoing, sporty male who knows how to enjoy life too. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 423303**

LAURA, single mum, 29yrs, blue eyed blonde, fair skinned, pretty. Lonely and seeking adult company when the kids are in bed! ACA. **Text Only Box: 4161735**

ALISON 35, stunning, busty and fun, looking for someone outgoing and broadminded who would like to share lazy lunches, good times and more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 423257**

DENISE 40, stunning slim brunette, great company, loves going out, looking to share intimate moments with that special someone. Looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 423239**

JENNY 38, petite, bubbly blue eyed babe, always on the go, WLTM unattached fun male to see what the future brings. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 423091**

KERRY 39, independent curvy brunette, sensual, tactile, loves cuddles and kisses, seeks cheeky, spontaneous guy to keep her company and make her smile again. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 423059**

ATTRACTIVE energetic mature lady, looking for well-travelled, solvent companion for holidays, dining out and days away. **Text only Mailbox: 5502846**

KATHY 40ish, passionate, outgoing, adventurous red haired lady looking for adventure, seeks tall good looking guy for a relaxed no strings relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 423005**

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RYAN, spontaneous, GSOH, tactile seeks pretty lady friend/LTR. Cambs area. **Text only Mailbox: 4886067**

MALE, 56, kind-hearted would like to meet female early or late 50s. **Text only Mailbox: 4371824**

ROGER young minded, 67, very adventurous, looking for a lady 40 years old upwards who is smart and would like to enjoy times with me. **Text only Mailbox: 5350823**

RICHARD, 39, tall, blue eyes, black hair, likes gardening, jigsaws, long walks, animals, socialising, looking to meet a female for friendship initially and see where it leads to. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 423499**

BEN, kind caring gent, 37yrs, very tall and well built with curly black hair. Own home, good job, just missing a special lady. **Text Only Box: 4158248**

WIDOWER young outlook, genuine, caring and considerate gent, GSOH WLTM a genuine lady, similar age. **Text only Mailbox: 5503258**

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Stones roll over City

By **George Welch**

CONFERENCE South side Oxford City continued their poor start to the season with a 3-0 home reverse against Wealdstone on Tuesday night.

Despite winning their first game of the season 2-1 against Welling, Saturday's 2-0 defeat at Hemel Hempstead and Tuesday's loss makes it three defeats in a row for Justin Merritt's side.

And on Tuesday, Oxford were undone by three second-half Wealdstone goals.

After an even first half, in which both sides had good chances and both keepers made good saves, it was the visitors who were quicker out of the blocks after the break as Elliott Benyon put Danny Green in to open the scoring.

City came close to levelling on a couple of occasions but it was Omar Koroma for Wealdstone who was next on the scoreboard on 66 minutes after ex-City man Matt Whichelow had taken advantage of a hesitant defence.

Benyon, with a hint of offside, notched a third five minutes later and substitute Tom Winters saw a snap-shot go close.

Stones striker Benyon then had the ball in the City net again on 82 minutes, but this one was disallowed.

Saturday's match against Hemel Hempstead saw Oxford just about shade their hosts in terms of possession, and in which they looked particularly dangerous from set-pieces.

But the Grosvenor Vale side took the lead on 32 minutes when Godfrey Poku inavertantly converted into his own net.

City pressed for an equaliser after the break, again looking dangerous from set-pieces, but it was the Tudors who notched the second goal of the match when Jake Robinson netted from a tight angle after 72 minutes.

Hemel held on for their first win of the campaign.

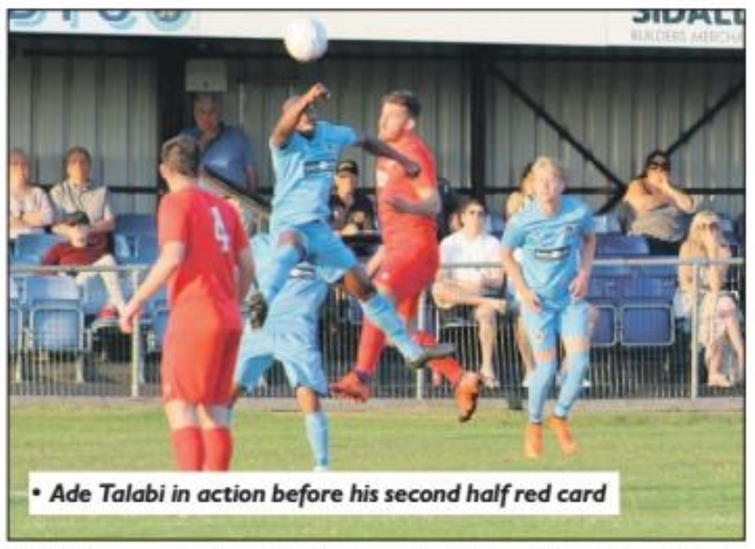
City, still without a goal from open play, slip into the early relegation zone and will hope for a better day on Saturday when Concord Rangers, still pointless after four matches, are the visitors to Marsh Lane.

Both sides have had disappointing starts to the season results-wise and, later in the campaign, this clash be deemed a dreaded 'six-pointer'.

Oxford City	**0**
Wealdstone	**3**

• Kynan Isaac

Heavy loss 'a shock to the system' for depleted Ardley



• Ade Talabi in action before his second half red card

NINE man Ardley United suffered a heavy 5-0 defeat at home to Flackwell Heath in the Hellenic League Premier Division on Tuesday evening.

Having lost 1-0 away to Highmoor-Ibis on Saturday, the defeat at The Playing Fields on Tuesday made it back-to-back defeats for United.

Midfielder Carl Tappin saw red on nine minutes after he denied a clear goal scoring opportunity on the goal line with his hand.

And forward Ade Talabi received his marching orders with 20 minutes remaining after he collected his second yellow card of the evening.

A hatrick from Flackwell Heath frontman Dan Burnell sandwiched between a second minute goal from Dan Molley and a late Jermaine Roche strike condemned Ardley to a substantial loss in the warm north Oxfordshire evening sun.

After encouraging back-to-back wins to start the season, manager Paul Davis said the hammering was "a shock to the system and a bit of a reality check".

He added: "To play with 10 men for 80 minutes is a hard task anyway, especially when you're two goals down.

"We simply were not good enough in the first half, and were then forced to play the last 20 minutes with nine men against a team that will finish high in this division, and it was just too much to ask tonight for my lads."

Ten man Didcot Town back to winning ways

TEN man Didcot Town produced a stunning display to beat Winchester 4-0 at Loop Meadow Stadium on Tuesday night.

Despite playing with 10 men for over 75 minutes, the Diddy recorded their first win of the season in convincing style.

Didcot supporters' memory of their last home outing, a 5-1 opening day humiliation against Swindon Supermarine, was quickly forgotten as Ryan Brooks set up Ben Whitehead to score within just 10 seconds of the match.

But, on 13 minutes, Andy Ballard was sent off after collecting two early yellow cards in quick succession.

Yet the sending off galvanised the hosts and 10 minutes before half time, Brooks scored his first since returning to Didcot to double the lead.

Minutes later, the referee awarded Winchester a soft penalty as keeper Leigh Bedwell went to claim a loose ball in the box but was penalised.

Bedwell made up for his error with a great save to keep the score at 2-0.

With half time looming, George Reid added a third to cap off a crazy first half at The Loop.

The second half was a quieter affair but the best goal of the night came with 10 minutes remaining after a brilliant solo goal from substitute Jack Powell.

The midfielder passed three defenders before he rounded the keeper and finished into an empty net.

Didcot will look to build on last Tuesday's result when they travel to Ascot on Saturday in The Emirates FA Cup Preliminary Round.

• A fans view of Didcot Town celebrations (picture courtesy of @rogredhat)

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Ten out of ten for Saints

By **George Welch**

OXFORD Saints blew away Swindon Storm 50-6 in the last match of the regular British American Football Association Division II season.

The win at Tilsley Park meant the Saints finished the 2016 season with a perfect 10-0 record, remaining undefeated as they enter the playoffs.

Oxford were dominant throughout and were 44-0 up before the visitors registered any points in the fourth quarter.

Running backs James Walter and Ryan Kingshott high scored for the league winners, recording 24 and 14 points respectively.

Slight relief came for Swindon when quarterback Brent Johnson-Flippance completed a pass to receiver Rul Rosa who was open over the middle, running it in for a 72-yard score that took the Saints by surprise.

Swindon kicker Luke McEnroe attempted the extra point but the ball hit the post.

The Saints, who beat their opponents away 54-14 in June, raced ahead to a 29-0 half time lead, with 22 of those points coming in the second quarter.

Walter got the scoring underway in the first quarter after he gained 17 yards from a Destin Maulding pass and charged across the goal line for the first touchdown of the day. Sam Fielden put the ball through the uprights and added the extra point.

And it was Walter who recorded the Abingdon-based sides' final points of the day before Swindon scored their consolation.

Kyle Swann passed the ball to Walter, who evaded multiple defenders and ran into the endzone for his fourth touchdown of the day, from 53 yards out.

Antonios Athanasiou attempted to cross the line for the two point score but was unable to get over.

And the 10th win of the season was confirmed when cornerback Marlon Mason intercepted Swindon's quarterback to bring the game to a close.

The Saints begin the play offs against the Cornish Sharks on Sunday, August 21.

• *Destin Maulding in action for the Saints*

Oxfordshire end season with victory

OXFORDSHIRE County Cricket club ended their Western Division league season on a high with a win over Cheshire this week.

The home side won their second match of the season by an innings and two runs after four wickets from 17-year-old Olly Clarke on day two helped them to victory on his minor county debut.

After setting a lead of 329 – 9 on the second day of play, Cheshire could only manage a total of 165 all out in their second innings, following on from a poor first day display.

Six wickets from Chad Keegan led the onslaught from Oxfordshire's bowlers in the first innings, with Luke Ryan also claiming three, as Cheshire's David Hurst got their highest score with 61.

Oxfordshire then built their day one lead with Richard Kaufman and Jonathan Cater wracking up hefty averages to leave Oxfordshire 193 – 4 up by the close of play.

This was followed on day two by a half century from Keegan as Oxfordshire finished 329 – 9.

Cheshire offered some resistance opening the second innings with Richard Moore's 35 runs, before he was dismissed by Clark.

Hurst could then only manage 25, and with Clarke claiming three more wickets for an exchange of 13 runs, the visitors were left too far adrift of the total.

Landmark victory for Plato

• *Jason Plato on the day of his 500th race (picture courtesy of @jasonplato)*

JASON Plato celebrated his 500th race in the British Touring Car Championships (BTCC) with a win at Knockhill, Dunfermline on Sunday.

Pole-sitter Plato celebrated his 500th BTCC race in style by taking a commanding lights-to-flag success in the opener, becoming the 11th different winner of this unpredictable season so far.

The Silverline Subaru BMR Racing driver built a strong gap over the first half of the race, before Team IHG Rewards Club's Jack Goff began reeling him in.

Plato's advantage was then completely eradicated by a safety car period, but he managed the remaining racing laps with consummate ease to claim a staggering 95th career victory.

Goff and Colin Turkington completed the podium positions, finishing second and third respectively.

Plato completed the weekend with impressive third placed finishes in the second and third races.

He said: "Before this weekend I wasn't getting caught up in any of the numbers.

"You cast your mind back to where it all started – struggling in single seaters with no money.

"Five hundred races later and we're still winning.

"Whilst we all wanted to get that first win for Subaru, did it matter too much to me? It was just great to see the cars winning – the ball was just yet to roll my way."

The strong performance in Scotland moves Plato up four places from 11th place to seventh.

Satch rows to Rio gold in men's eight

KEEPING in control of his emotions perhaps isn't something Will Satch excels at, but he admitted it was a good job his rowing was off the charts after taking men's eight gold in Rio.

The British crew – featuring the likes of double Olympic champion Andrew Triggs Hodge and Oxford Brookes' Scott Durant – executed a perfect race in Saturday's final to lead throughout.

Holding a massive lead of 2.45 seconds over Germany at halfway, Satch and crew eventually crossed to win by a margin of 1.33 to cap a wonderful regatta for TeamGB with another gold.

And reflecting on the performance, Satch admits the camaraderie and competitiveness in the boat formed the backbone of the team's success in Rio.

He said: "It is just a real surreal moment, it's been building up and building up for, well I guess the last four years, but really the last couple of weeks.

"I'm a bit of an emotional bloke anyway so it's quite hard to be able to hold me stable and just keep a lid on stuff and obviously with the conditions it can mess with your head."

He added: "The camaraderie in the boat is great.

"You have guys that are double Olympic champions and guys who are almost newbies but we came together as one and that was what won it on the day."

• ***Satch and the TeamGB contingent are supported by Aldi, the first Official Supermarket partner of Team GB***

• *Will Satch and his team preparing for the Olympics (picture courtesy of @WilliamSatch)*

Former Yellow puts his boyhood club to the sword

United surrender to Pirates

TEN-MAN Oxford United suffered their first defeat back in League One after they fell to a 2-1 defeat to at Bristol Rovers at the Memorial Stadium on Saturday.

After right back Sam Long's dismissal in the second half, the U's succumbed to goals from Jermaine Easter and former United striker Matty Taylor.

A first Oxford goal for Kane Hemmings, who started in place of the injured Wes Thomas, had equalised for Michael Appleton's men just before half time.

But Taylor, who looked set to re-sign for his boyhood club this summer, proved the winner for the Pirates 20 minutes from time.

Playing their first home league game back in League One, Rovers flew out of the blocks and could have scored two in the first two minutes.

Simon Eastwood saved Mark McChrystal's header after 75 seconds and Rory Gaffney failed to tap home a simple-looking finish from the resulting corner before he dragged another decent chance wide on five minutes.

By **George Welch**

And on 24 minutes the visitors were behind.

The entire ground were already on their feet and applauding 24-year-old fan Joe Allington, who passed away suddenly last week.

As the applause rang out, Easter drilled an unstoppable effort across Eastwood and into the far corner to make it 1-0 and give the young Rovers fan a perfect tribute.

United almost hit back immediately when a flowing move ended with Hemmings heading back at the far post and the flying Liam Sercombe nodded the bouncing ball just wide as Steve Mildenhall hesitated in the Bristol goal.

United looked increasingly dangerous and were on level terms two minutes before the break, with Hemmings converting into the bottom left corner of the net.

The second half was evenly contested with chances for both sides.

But with a quarter of the game left, the Yellows' Long saw red after he picked up a second yellow card. Appleton had already protested that the Bicester-born right back's first yellow card was harsh.

And just three minutes later, Sercombe presented the ball straight to Taylor who thumped the match-winning finish home.

With five minutes remaining, Eastwood denied another ex-Oxford man, Cristian Montano, from making it 3- 1.

• *Matty Taylor proved the match winner against his old club (picture courtesy of @Official_BRFC)*

Pepperell launches campaign to boost kids' golf participation

EDDIE Pepperell has helped launch a new campaign to increase young people's participation in the sport.

The Abingdon-born golfer helped promote the Golf Foundation, which has been named as the official charity of the British Masters, which will take place at The Grove, in Hertfordshire, from October 13.

The tournament, hosted this season by former world No 1 Luke Donald, will help raise awareness and funds for the foundation, which was set up in 1952, and make golf more accessible to young people of all abilities and from many different backgrounds.

And European Tour member Pepperell, a strong supporter of junior golf development, was joined by 30 children from the Golf Foundation at The Grove on August 10 to launch the tournament's Official Charity campaign.

Pepperell recently returned the sponsorship paid to him by his home club, Frilford Heath, to allow 51 youngsters to become junior members which increased the club's junior section by two thirds.

He said: "The Golf Foundation is a superb charity which takes golf to kids who might otherwise not have the opportunity to participate in the game.

"It was fantastic to have so many of the kids from the Golf Foundation at The Grove to launch the official charity, and have a go at some of the golf activities we had set up."

Tournament host Donald said: "We saw at the British Masters last year how much fun kids can have by getting involved with the game of golf.

"It was great that Eddie could be at The Grove today to help with the Official Charity launch and meet some of the kids."

• *Andy Hoggins in action for the Blues (picture courtesy of @Oxford_RL)*

Oxford blown away in storm

FOLLOWING back-to-back wins Oxford RL were brought back down to earth with a damaging 62-18 defeat to Newcastle Thunder at Tilsley Park on Saturday.

Oxford's poor performance in the Kingstone Press League 1 Shield clash allowed Newcastle to record their biggest total of the season.

Thunder were out of the blocks in sharp time with their opening try early in the first half and had opened up a 22 point lead before the hosts grabbed an unconverted score through Harry Griffiths just before half time.

The visitors ran in eleven tries over the course of the afternoon and two quick Newcastle tries at the start of the second 40 saw their lead grow to 32-4.

The hosts responded when Josh Nathaniel pounced on Scott Fleming's grubber to cross, before Nathaniel added another to reduce the deficit to 20 points.

But Thunder rediscovered their clinical edge with four more tries to see off Oxford.

Confident finish to tough GP weekend

OXFORDSHIRE'S MotoGP rider Bradley Smith delivered a fully determined performance at the Austrian Grand Prix on Sunday to clinch ninth in front of more than 95,000 fans.

The Monster Yamaha Tech3 Team rider, who started in 14th, leapt forward from the middle of the fifth row of the grid and after navigating his way through the frantic first lap, he crossed the finish line in 11th.

The British star found himself in 10th position at the halfway point after he sustained a strong rhythm.

And the 25-year-old continued to lap at an impressive pace right until the chequered flag and was unlucky to just miss out on the top independent position by three-tenths of a second.

But the result was a positive end to a previously challenging weekend.

Smith, who sits in 14th position on 42 points, said: "Overall, I have to be happy with the result and we really turned things around.

"I am also a little bit disappointed because the top satellite position was the aim, especially after the pace that we had in warm-up and I knew that we had a good chance.

"We already knew it would be a challenging weekend, but from where we were on Friday to where we are now, it's clear to see that we've made a big step and I am very proud."

Next up for Smith is the Czech Republic Grand Prix this weekend.

• *Bradley Smith (picture courtesy of Tech3Racing)*

Sport Bites

Fleetwood away

FOOTBALL: Oxford United travelled to Fleetwood town last night in their latest League One fixture.

Chey Dunkley and Wes Thomas, who both missed out on Sunday's defeat to Bristol Rovers, were included in the travelling squad as the U's search for their first League One win of the season.

Dunkley picked up a hamstring strain on the opening day of the season against Chesterfield, while Thomas was forced off with a tight groin in last Tuesday's EFL Cup win at Birmingham City.

Right back Sam Long was suspended and missed out, meaning that youngster Miles Welch-Hayes was in contention to make his full debut for the club.

Transfer watch

FOOTBALL: Oxford United have given up their efforts to sign Motherwell striker Marvin Johnson after the Scottish outfit rejected a bid from the U's.

Goalkeeper Max Crocombe has joined League Two side Carlsile United. The 22-year-old penned a one-year contract.

Head coach Michael Appleton looks set to stay away from the loan market, despite losing right backs Christian Ribeiro for a month and Sam Long for a game through suspension.

New stand

ICE HOCKEY: Darryl Morvan is the final Oxford City Stars legend to have a stand at Oxpens Road named after him after an online fans vote.

A defensive stalwart, Morvan, who played 223 times for the Stars in the 1980s and the 1990s, beat nine other 1980s legends and managed to pull in over a quarter of the votes.

Stands have already been named after Scott Gough, Dan Prachar and Dave Carr, with the city end of the rink being named the Elliott End after Darren Elliott and his dad Norman.

Navy rugby

RUGBY 7S: Royal Navy Sharks were crowed winners of the Abingdon 7s on Saturday, with the hosts winning the Shield.

The Navy side beat High Wycombe 24 – 7 in the final to win the Dr Cherry Cup.

Meanwhile Abingdon RFC won the Shield competition with a 61 – 0 victory over Chinnor Falcons at Lambrick Way.

They were awarded the trophies by leader of the Abingdon Town Council Mike Badcock and town mayor Cllr Alice Badcock (pictured below).

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Oxfordshire strikes gold in Olympic medal haul

IF Oxfordshire were counted on its own the county would lie 18th in the Rio Olympics results table of countries ahead of the likes of South Africa, Jamaica and Argentina, with just days to go before the end of the Games.

Athletes from Oxfordshire were victorious across five different events, but the treasure haul is in no small part down to the success of rowers from Henley's Leander Club.

Oxfordshire is also responsible for 20 per cent of Team GB's record breaking total of 89 individual medals, with 18.

Leander Club, the world's most successful club in terms of Olympic medals – with 123 – account for 12 medals at this year's Rio Games.

A glorious victory in the men's eight on Saturday was the culmination of a brilliant week of rowing for Team GB, with five Leander men, and former Oxford University rower Andrew Triggs-Hodge taking GB to victory over Germany.

Their victory followed on from the

By **Dominic Thomas**

historic silver in the women's eight - Britain's first in the event - which saw four Leander rowers, complimented by Oxford's Frances Houghton and Olivia Carnegie-Brown pip Romania to second place behind the USA.

Fellow Leander Club rower Alex Gregory repeated his 2012 success with a gold in the coxless four, along with fellow double champion and former Oxford University rower Constantine Louloudis.

There was also a fairytale ending for Oxford Brookes' Chancellor Katherine Grainger, who made it to her fifth Games and became Britain's most decorated female Olympian, with a silver in the women's double sculls, just missing out on gold to the pair from Poland.

She held the title until Team GB cyclist Laura Trott overtook her medal haul on Tuesday.

Grainger, 40, had looked set to miss out on Rio after failing to make the women's eight team, but was given a late chance to make history after reforming her coubles partnership with Leander's Vicky Thornley.

Outside of Team GB, Spanish Oxford-born canoe sprinter Marcus Walz claimed gold in the single K1 1,000m kayak sprint, despite being fifth in the field half way through.

There was an upset in the women's windsurfing, as former Cheney School pupil Bryony Shaw finished in sixth despite being a favourite for a medal.

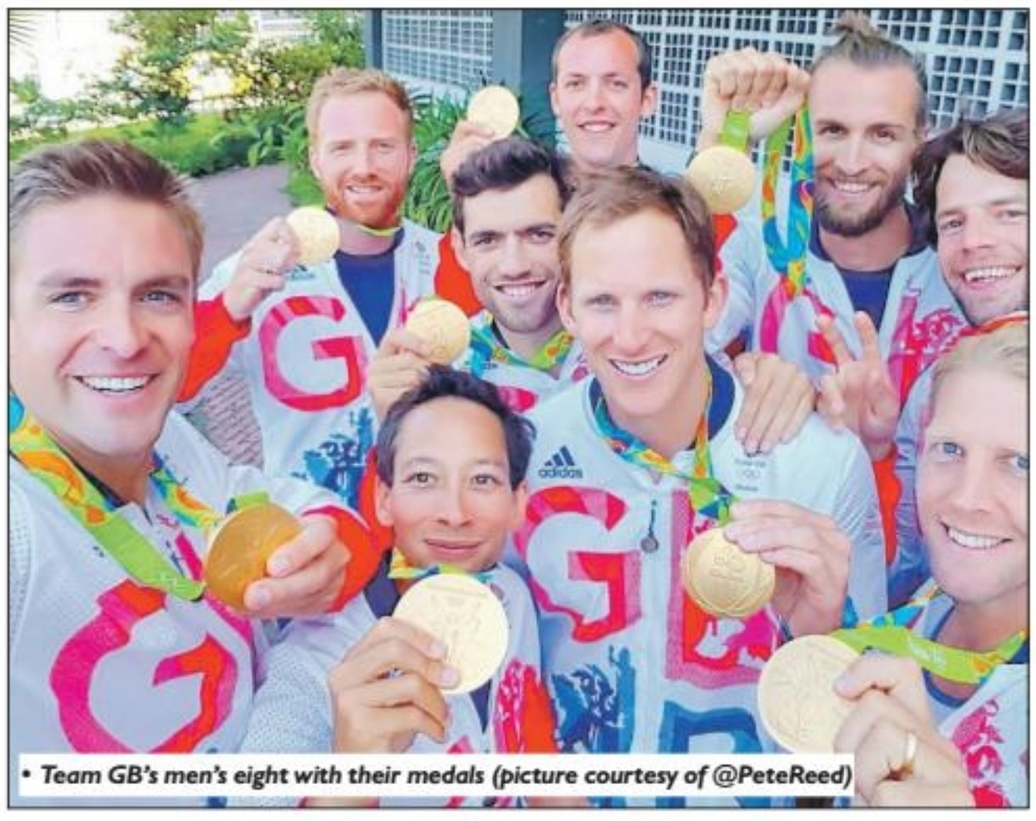
Also on the water, Banbury kayaker Angela Hannah finished her Olympics with a seventh place ride in the K2 500m sprint B final with partner Lani Belcher.

There was no silverware either for Lower Stanton's Kitty King as part of Team GB's eventing team on her first Olympic outing.

Rounding off the action for Oxfordshire was 110m hurdles hopeful Lawrence Clarke, from Watlington, who was run out at the semi-final stage on Wednesday, after finishing fourth in London 2012.

OXFORDSHIRE MEDAL TABLE

Athlete	Event	Medal
Vicky Thornley	Women's Double Sculls	Silver
Katherine Grainger	Women's Double Sculls	Silver
Constantine Louloudis	Men's Coxless Four	Gold
Alex Gregory	Men's Coxless Four	Gold
Phelan Hill	Men's Eight, cox	Gold
Will Satch	Men's Eight	Gold
Matt Gotrel	Men's Eight	Gold
Matt Langridge	Men's Eight	Gold
Tom Ransley	Men's Eight	Gold
Pete Reed	Men's Eight	Gold
Scott Durant	Men's Eight	Gold
Andrew Triggs-Hodge	Men's Eight	Gold
Zoe de Toledo	Women's Eight, cox	Silver
Katie Greves	Women's Eight	Silver
Polly Swann	Women's Eight	Silver
Karen Bennett	Women's Eight	Silver
Olivia Carnegie-Brown	Women's Eight	Silver
Frances Houghton	Women's Eight	Silver
Marcus Waltz (Spain)	K1 1000m	Gold



• *Team GB's men's eight with their medals (picture courtesy of @PeteReed)*

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Telephone 01235 511700 (Head Office).
Printed by Iliffe Print Cambridge, Milton, Cambridge CB24 6PP